

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Japan & The China Trade

JUDGING from press reports, the recent signing of a barter trade agreement between Communist China and Japanese interests has been given exaggerated importance both in Europe and Japan. Although the amount mentioned, £50 millions on each side, is large, it is also illusory. The Japanese Government has given warning that it will not relax its enforcement of the United Nations resolution on strategic exports to China, and it appears that 38 per cent of the commodities mentioned in the agreement are on the embargo list. Previous experience of this kind of agreement has not been good. For example, a similar agreement made in June of 1952 led to almost nothing. Instead of the promised £30 millions' worth of trade each way the actual results for the year ended last June were no more than £900,000 worth of exports from Japan and £780,000 worth of imports. When the new pact was signed in Peking the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister said China was willing to conclude a non-aggression pact with Japan if she would break with the Chinese Nationalists and would free herself from "subordination to the United States," a clear pointer to the fact that the talk of fostering trade between the two countries is principally influenced by political motives.

It is of course natural that Japan should look hopefully to a revival of trade with China. Japan's Western competitors look equally hopefully on this as a means of relieving Japan's pressure to export to their markets. The opening of the China market to Japan would be a healthy thing for the world. But Japanese hopes have to be tempered in the light of current political and economic conditions. Japanese opinion it is true is strongly for more trade with China, but even if the embargo list is much relaxed (and there have been a small number of concessions recently) the possible relief to Japan in her serious economic situation does not appear to be great. Japan's gap between imports and exports may this year reach \$1,100 millions; it is not likely to be much reduced by her China trade—a fact of much consequence to the West.

No Further Compromise Over Canal Zone Issue

CHURCHILL'S REPORTED STATEMENT TO MR DULLES

Washington, Dec. 10. The British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, told President Eisenhower and other American officials in Bermuda that his Conservative government would fall if it attempted a further compromise with Egypt over the evacuation of British troops from the Suez Canal Zone.

This was disclosed today by informants who said the information was given to the Egyptian Ambassador, Ahmed Hussein, here by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, during a half-hour meeting between the two at the State Department this afternoon.

After talking with Mr Dulles, Mr Hussein had a half-hour meeting with the Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East affairs, Mr Henry Byrads, who also attended the Bermuda meeting and discussed the Suez matter with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden.

Mr Dulles, according to diplomatic authorities, told Mr Hussein that the British had thus rejected a compromise American plan for settling the Suez dispute by middle of the 1950s.

The Egyptian Ambassador said, however, that his Government was "suspicious" of Sir Winston's reasons for not accepting the American compromise.

Mr Hussein has been recalled to Cairo for consultations and will leave some time between December 15 and 20. Aides said he expected to present his information to the government of President Mohammed Naguib and then return to Washington early in January.

The Egyptian Ambassador to London likewise has been summoned home for consultations.

SLIGHT DIFFERENCE

American authorities believe the difference between the British and Egyptians is so slight that it can easily be resolved. The British want to have the right to go back into the Suez, along with their allies, if there is any attack on the Arab States or Turkey, Iran or Greece.

The Egyptians want to grant this right only in the event of direct attack on the Arab States—excluding Turkey, Iran and Greece.

The British went so far as to agree that they would consult with "Egypt and the other Arab nations" about reoccupy-

tion in the event of an attack on Turkey, Iran or Greece.

The American formula provides merely that the British and their allies can go back by a simple Anglo-Egyptian agreement if there is an attack anywhere in the Middle East.

The formula presented by Mr Dulles in Bermuda also contained a preamble under which Egypt would recognize her responsibilities as a member of the United Nations to help keep the peace. The Americans reportedly felt this would take care of the reoccupation problem in the event of a general war.

Egyptian officials here are reported to believe that President Eisenhower, Mr Dulles and American officials have done about all they can toward bringing about a compromise in the Suez dispute. However, they contend, according to diplomatic sources, that the Americans are unduly influenced by a desire to see Churchill remain in office.

POSITION WEAKENED

American officials are said to believe that the British position in the Middle East is so weak as a result of the elections in the Sudan—where the voters elected to join with Egypt—that Sir Winston's prophecy of a fall on the Suez question is not overdone.

The prediction in diplomatic quarters here was that Egypt might adopt a policy of non-cooperation with the British in Suez, as a result of Sir Winston's refusal to consider the American plan, and withdraw the thousands of labourers and technicians of Egyptian nationality who are in the Zone.

The fear was expressed in very well-informed quarters here that Egypt and the other Arab States may decide to adopt a policy of "neutrality" in the cold war as a result of the inability to reach agreement on Suez. The Arab League meets in Cairo on January 15 and it is expected the Premier of all those countries will be present to adopt a general policy on relations with the West.—United Press.

IN 15 YEARS' TIME

Cairo, Dec. 10. Egypt is making preparations to take complete charge of the Suez Canal in 15 years from now when the Canal Company's concession expires, according to a statement by Egyptian official, Mohamed Abdin, in an article published today in the Cairo newspaper, Al-Ahram.

The writer, a Deputy Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Government Communication, with the Suez Canal Company, is due to leave for Paris at the end of the week. In the French capital, he will take up several important questions with the directors of the Canal Company, which has its headquarters in Paris.

The company is Egyptian but Britain holds half of the capital shares and the government board is composed of 10 French, 10 British, four Egyptians, one American and one Netherlands director. The concession is due to end in 1968.—France-Press.

Britain Puts In Protest

London, Dec. 10. Britain announced today that she has lodged a strong protest with Egypt over the "considerable increase" in incidents against British troops in the disputed Suez Canal Zone.

The protest came to light in the House of Commons in a written reply by the Foreign Under-Secretary, Mr Arthur Doode-Farmer.

A Foreign Office spokesman said later he believed that the protest was made in Cairo about 10 days ago.—United Press.

START THE RETURN TRIP

Churchill & Laniel Leave Bermuda

Hamilton, Bermuda, Dec. 10.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Joseph Laniel of France left by plane tonight for London in the Strato-Cruiser Canopus, which brought Sir Winston here for the Big Three conference.

Mr Laniel, apparently recovered from his heavy cold, boarded the plane first after cheerily waving his hat to a crowd of 2,000 which had gathered despite wind rain and the late hour.

A number of Bermuda dignitaries were present but were no courtesies. Because it was after dark, when no British troops are allowed on the streets of Bermuda, the only "military representative" was the mascot of the Welsh Fusiliers—Billy the goat—which climbed up to the ramp.

Sir Winston, smoking a cigar and accompanied by the Governor, told the Bermudians: "Thank you all very much for your kindness. We have enjoyed our visit to your beautiful island. We trust our work will not, in the end, go unrewarded. Good luck to Bermuda. Keep a cheer for the British garrison when it returns."

FAMILIAR SIGN

As he entered the aircraft, the Prime Minister turned around, waved his hat in the air and made his familiar V for Victory sign. The plane took off at 8.10 p.m. for the flight to England, which takes approximately 11½ hours.

This afternoon, Sir Winston and a party of four men visited one of Bermuda's beaches. The Prime Minister, apparently feeling extremely agile, scrambled down a fairly steep, sandy slope to the water's edge, where he sat a few minutes in a deck chair. When he clambered back up the slope, he turned to a group of about 20 American tourists and said, "Well, there you are," apparently as if to show them his enjoyment of life.—United Press.

Lady Churchill Stole Show

Stockholm, Dec. 10. Lady Churchill, wife of the 79-year-old British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature today read out her husband's speech and, for clarity of diction and emphasis on the main points, bled fair to rival her famous speaker-spouse far away in Bermuda.

She was loudly applauded by the distinguished gathering which attended the Nobel Prize banquet at the City Hall here tonight. Heading the distinguished list of guests were the King and Queen of Sweden and members of the royal family, all of whom listened carefully to the brilliant oratory of Sir Winston as he delivered a feminine voice.

Gouzenko Willing To Talk

Conditions Revealed

Ottawa, Dec. 10. Justice Minister Stuart Garson said today that Igor Gouzenko had notified him by letter that he would be willing to talk with United States Senate spy investigators in a Canadian-controlled meeting.

Mr Garson announced Gouzenko's decision in a short statement to the House of Commons. He told the House that Senator William E. Jenner, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security, and Sub-Committee's counsel, Mr Robert T. Morris, had been named United States representatives to meet with Mr Gouzenko.

He outlined for the House of Commons the terms of the meeting set by Canada in a note to the United States Government last month.

The meeting will be held under Canadian auspices and presided over by a Canadian official who will rule on procedures.

SECRET MEETING

The meeting will be conducted secretly. No part of the evidence or information supplied by the former Russian cipher clerk will be made public without the approval of the Canadian Government.

Following the settlement of the terms in an exchange of notes with the United States, Mr Garson told the House, "I communicated by letter with Mr Gouzenko, who has now replied that he is prepared to meet the representatives of the United States Government on the terms mutually agreed between the United States and Canadian Governments."

"In view of the confidential nature of the meeting, I am sure the House will agree that it would be undesirable to say anything further on this matter at this time," Mr Garson added. Official sources said that there probably would be no announcement of the meeting made until a "sufficient period of time to allow for safety," had elapsed.—United Press.

WILLING TO DEBATE

Washington, Dec. 10. Senator Joseph McCarthy said today he would be willing to debate the subject of Communism in the United States with the former President, Mr Harry S. Truman.

They were invited to engage in the debate by the Harvard University Law School forum, a student organization at Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mr Herschel Shanks, a 23-year-old law student, who is chairman of the forum, said he had sent the invitations to Senator McCarthy and Mr Truman on December 2. But had not yet heard from either.—Router.

Dies, Aged 125

Mombasa, Dec. 10. Bamed Haj Hamdan, an Arab trader who claimed to have lived for 125 years, died here today.

Hamdan still had his full set of teeth and all his mental faculties up to his death. His only physical defect was his failing eyesight.

He had been married four times and is survived by his 50-year-old wife, and by eight children, the eldest 65 and the youngest a 19-year-old daughter.

Hamdan was born at Oman, in Arabia, and at the age of 27 he joined the Arabian Army in Somalia. Later he became a trader and came to Mombasa in 1947. He made his first return trip to the land of his birth in 1945.—United Press.

Wage Increase Rejected

UNPRECEDENTED ACTION

London, Dec. 10. Three British railway unions today rejected an additional four shillings a week wage increase for all workers as Britain's current industrial pay crisis heightened.

The leaders of the three unions, which represent 450,000 workers, took this unprecedented step at a meeting in London this afternoon. They turned down the pay award on the grounds that it was not sufficient.

They made the decision unanimously.

The award was made last week by the Railway Staff Tribunal and was accepted by the British Transport Commission. The unions had asked for a 15 per cent wage increase all round. The Tribunal made its four shillings award which means an extra £5 million annually for the Commission.

Today's meeting of rail union chiefs took no action on strike calls pouring in from many parts of the country.

The leaders evidently wanted to give the Transport Commission the chance to offer a higher award before taking a step which would paralyse the transport of food and raw materials all over Britain. If the Commission refuses to grant a bigger award the unions will all certainly move towards a protest move of some kind, perhaps a 24-hour national strike on the pattern of last week's stoppage by two million shipbuilding and engineering workers.

The unions appear to be standing firm in the fight for higher wages. All three unions—the National Union of Railwaymen, the Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Transport and General Workers' Association—have condemned the meanness of the Tribunal award.—Router.

Executions Postponed

Wellington, Dec. 10. The execution of three South Sea Islanders "condemned to death for murdering" their Resident Commissioner last August has been postponed, it was authoritatively learned tonight.

The New Zealand Executive Council will now consider allowing the three natives to appeal to the Privy Council.

The three Islanders, Polulu, Latolama and Tamaki, escaped from prison on Niue Island, 1,400 miles north of New Zealand, hacked Mr C. H. W. Larsen to death and wounded his wife.

They were to have been executed before December 10. The decision to consider the application for an appeal followed strong protests from churches and other organisations at the Executive Council's refusal to reprieve the Islanders earlier this week.

(At their trial the Islanders admitted the killing but said Mr Larsen had threatened them).—Router.

NATO Has One Of Its Best Years Says Gruenther

Paris, Dec. 10. General Alfred Gruenther, Commander Allied Forces in Europe, told the Atlantic Pact Chiefs of Staff here today that 1953 had been one of the Alliance's "best years" and that NATO now has 40 army divisions and 5,000 front line aircraft standing ready to resist any Russian attack.

General Gruenther, who had been reviewing the Pact's annual progress report on the 14-nation Alliance's Military Committee, then turned out of the conference everyone under the rank of Lieutenant-General while he talked about the use of atomic weapons in the field.

About 50 military and civil advisers paced the lobbies of NATO's prefabricated headquarters here while the top men secretly discussed what military sources described as the potentially revolutionary effect of atomic warfare on traditional land operations.

Atomic guns—of which there are already some in Germany—are now in the "conventional" class as war weapons in Atlantic Pact military planning. This year's buildup again shows a small deficit in air strength goals. But officials say great progress has been made in the turnover from obsolete aircraft to modern jet planes. The number of squadrons operating piston-engined aircraft has been markedly reduced.

The 40 land divisions include Turkish and Greek forces which do not come under the Western European Command.

WORST WEAKNESS
The Military Committee reaffirmed today the most serious weakness in Western Europe is the absence of the 12 divisions West Germany has been scheduled to contribute through the European Army Plan for the last 18 months.

NATO devoted most of its \$60,000,000 military expenditure this year to requirements, strengthening reserves and laying down new production lines for modern weapons.

The result has been a "strong and healthy" consolidation rather than a dramatic increase in operational strength, the sources said. The increase in what the military chiefs called "effectiveness" is something more than 30 per cent above last year.

But Russian effectiveness has also increased by about the same amount in Europe—the military intelligence experts told the Military Committee.

Next year's NATO programme approved by the Military Committee today envisages slightly more spending and another year of consolidation.

By the end of 1954 it is hoped to have completed all the 128 new airfields in Europe.

About 100 have now been finished and are available for use. A senior official here tonight denied reports that the Pact had now agreed to adopt a new

Keeping Eye On Weather

Suva, Fiji, Dec. 10.

Weather reports are being signalled to the Gotha every few hours as the Royal yacht, bringing Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to Fiji, approaches the hurricane zone of the Pacific.

The Royal couple are due here on December 17 and the immediate weather outlook is favourable but it could alter very quickly. This is the hurricane season and meteorologists at Nandi and Fiji are anxiously watching the weather trends in the storm-making areas south of the Equator.

The unspoken fear is that revision of the Fiji programme for the Royal tour may be necessary if a hurricane should develop and the storm centre moves towards the Fiji Islands.

Statistics give approximately a two to one chance of rain during the Royal visit but rain or shine the outdoor programme will be carried through.—Router.



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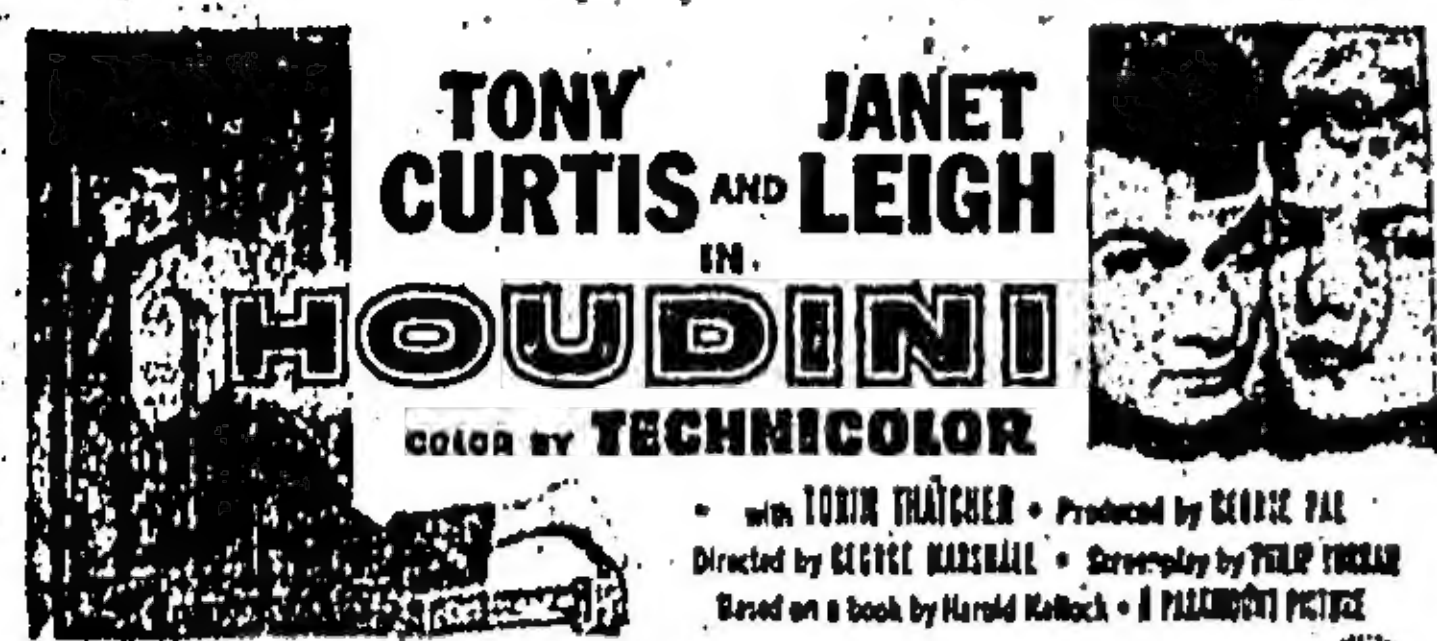
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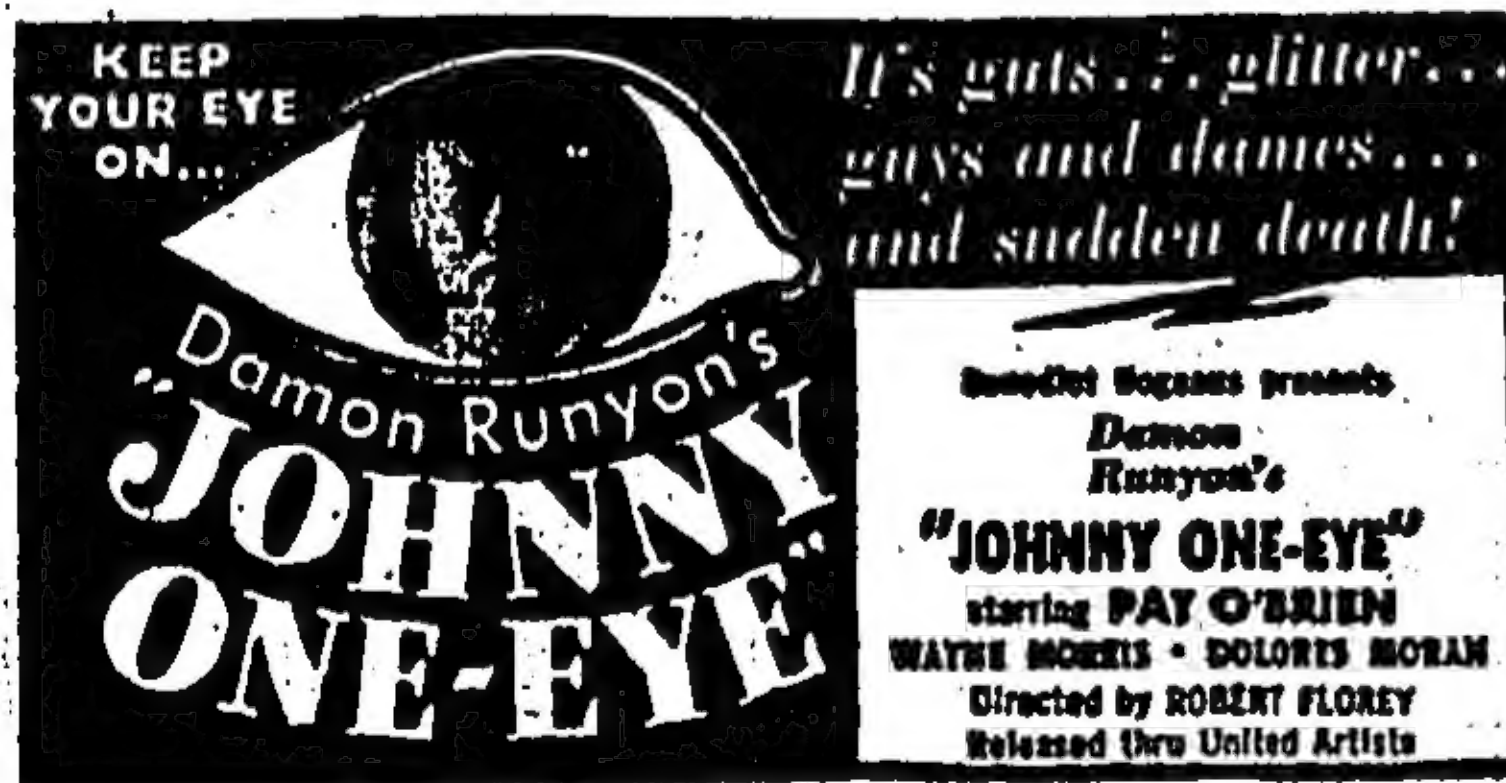
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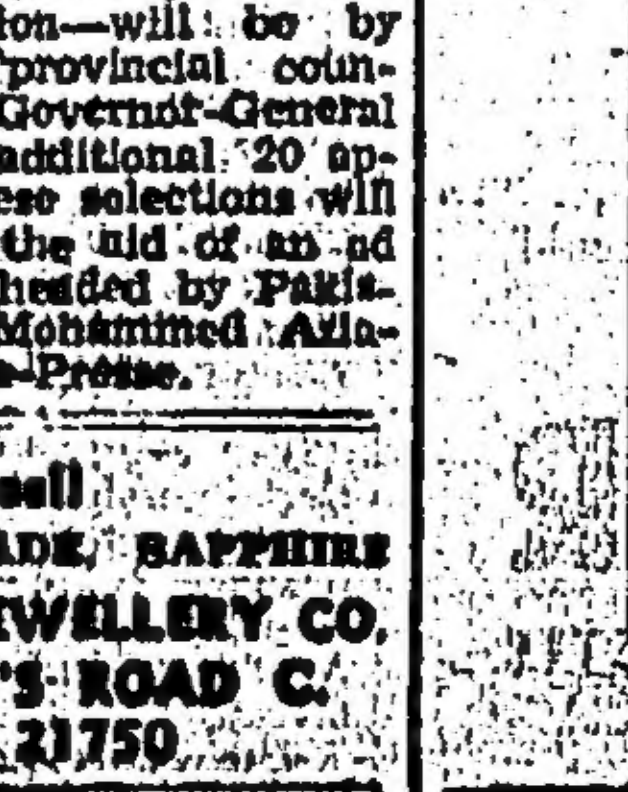
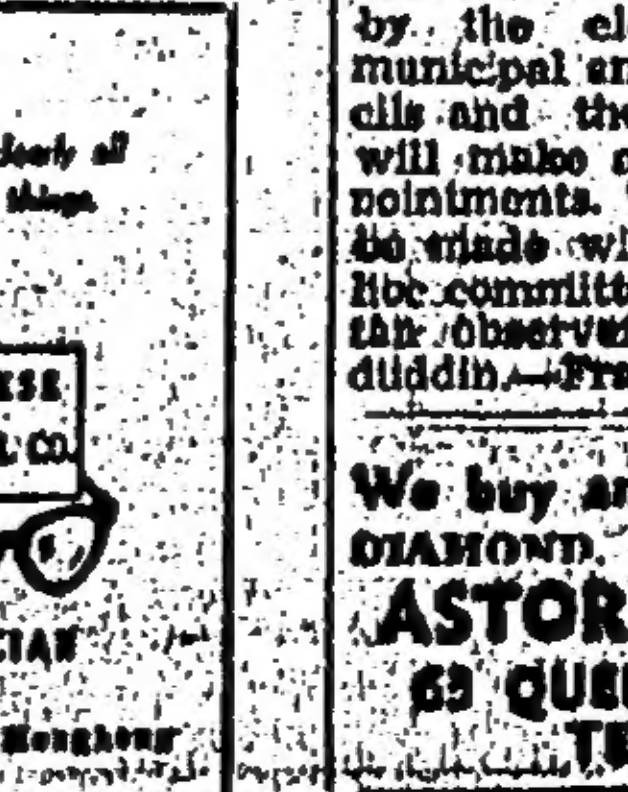
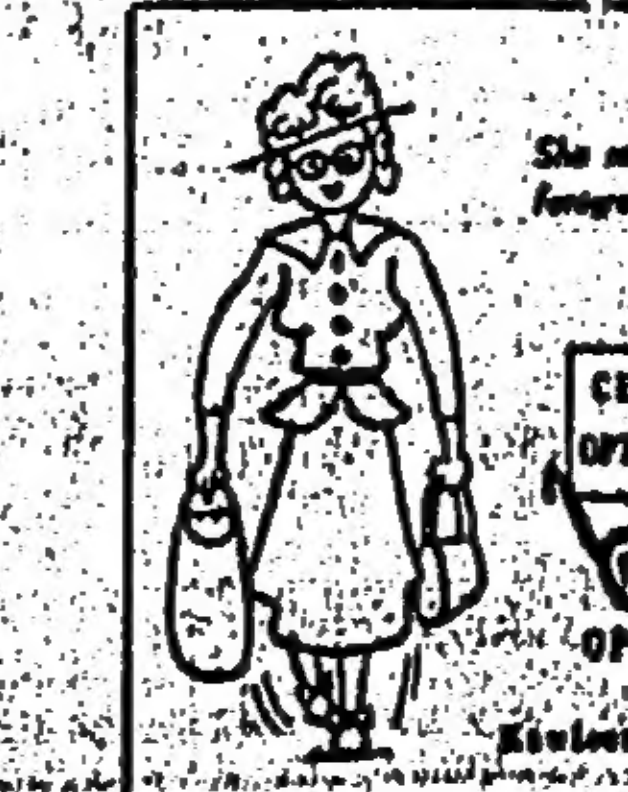
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



★ NEXT CHANGE ★



POP



US AID TO PAKISTAN

Forthcoming NATO Meeting One Of Most Important

Paris, Dec. 10.

The forthcoming session of the Council of Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation promises to be one of the most important, both politically and militarily, of all the meetings of this body held so far, competent observers said here tonight.

Father-in-law Killed

Tokyo, Dec. 10.

The police in Kawasaki city, near Tokyo, today arrested Masayo Matsui, 25-year-old housewife, on a charge of manslaughter.

The police said Masayo's father-in-law complained about her bad cooking and started hitting her with a broom handle. The police then alleged Masayo took the handle from her father-in-law and beat him to death. — China Mail Special.

Hold-Up In Paris Post Office

Paris, Dec. 10.

A real touch the Wild West of Buffalo Bill came to Paris today complete with "bank" robbers, a charming heroine and the dashing hero.

The hero was a young Post Office clerk, Marius Didier. The heroine was a charming female employee, Jeannine Pellet. And the bad man was a would-be Post Office robber.

The action started when Jeannine, counting up the day's receipts, had a pile of banknotes in front of her comely frame.

But the bold bandit was not overcome by beauty and asked for the money, as he waved a menacing gun in front of the terrified damsel.

The bold Marius took it all in and, with one amazing leap, he hurled his counter like Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., and landed squarely on the back of the somewhat dazed hold-up man.

The bandit went down and stayed down. By the time the police arrived, Marius had him all trussed up in true western style ready for delivery.

Incidentally, Marius not only saved the girl—there was a little matter of 2,400,000 francs that might have gone from the government's coffers. — France-Press.

The Council is meeting from December 14 to 16 in Paris. From the military point of view, these observers pointed to the statements made by the French Defence Minister, M. Rene Pleven, before the Council of the Republic (French Upper House) in the light of the results of the recent NATO manoeuvres, and of the Soviet possession of atomic weapons.

M. Pleven had suggested the creation of mobile units equipped with light cross-country vehicles capable of attacking and withdrawing rapidly. The establishment of such units would modify military strategy.

DOMINANT ROLE

One of the elements expected to play a dominant role in the forthcoming council discussions is the view now widely held in Europe that there is no immediate danger of Soviet aggression. With this in mind, observers here stressed that the original purpose of the Atlantic community—to pave the way towards closer political collaboration of the states involved—might now be closer to realisation.

A year ago, it was suggested that a political "standing group" might be set up alongside the permanent group which deals with military questions. As far as the annual review of NATO budgetary needs is concerned, it is now expected that this examination by the council would give rise to controversy as has been the case in the past.

The military leaders, observers said, were prepared to accept the limitations imposed by the economic conditions of the various countries on military expenditures. — France-Press.

Dublin, Dec. 10.

The Irish Government is to spend up to £5 million sterling on Irish roads and about £500,000 sterling for other public works. — Reuters.

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Essential Political Decision Must Be Reached Soon

By STEWART HEMSLEY

Washington, Dec. 10.

Authoritative sources said today that President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, soon must make a decision on whether to grant a considerable amount of military aid to Pakistan—a move urged by high American military officials.

The decision is essentially a political one, since it involves the possibility of injuring American relations with India.

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, has said that his country would view with disapproval any American strengthening of Pakistan's military might. And Russia, in a formal note, told Pakistan that it would consider it an unfriendly act if Pakistan entered a military alliance with the United States and granted the Americans military bases in Pakistan.

American military officials, during conversations here earlier this autumn with Pakistan Army Chief of Staff, Ayub Khan, agreed that United States military assistance should be extended to Pakistan. They passed their recommendation on to the State Department.

So far as the matter of American "bases" in Pakistan is concerned, officials said that there was some public misconception of what the discussions on this subject had concerned. They said that there was no desire on the part of the United States to establish American air bases in Pakistan but merely the wish to have an agreement that existing Pakistani bases could be used by the Americans in the event of an "emergency."

Mr. Dulles, at a recent Press conference, denied that there were any "negotiations" underway with Pakistan for a military alliance, bases or aid. However, his aides explained today that he was making a distinction between the military "discussions" held at the Pentagon and "formal negotiations."

President Eisenhower has said that the United States would be most careful not to make any arrangements with Pakistan which might create disquiet in India.

However, officials pointed out that the question now has come down to the basis where a political decision is necessary. This decision, they said, is essentially whether the United States wants to make its States' goodwill at the price of giving up its decision to aid a staunch anti-Communist Muslim nation in the Middle East.

Govt Workers Paralyse Italy

Rome, Dec. 10.

Italy's Government machinery, railways, schools and telephone and telegraph systems will be paralysed from midnight tonight when 1,000,000 state workers begin a 24-hour strike for higher pay.

Communist, Christian Democrat, Social Democrat and Neo-Fascist labour leaders are allied for the first time in calling out all Government-paid workers.

The strike will be followed four days later by a 24-hour stoppage of six million industrial workers, also called out by the temporary alliance of the usually bitterly opposed labour federations.

Communist leaders threaten the two one-day strikes will be developed into the biggest labour campaign the country has ever seen directed against both the Government and the industrialists.

But the Government tonight threatened severe sanctions against all state employees who strike. In addition to losing a day's pay and all special allowances a black mark will be entered into the personal file of each striker, thus reducing his chances of promotion.

Emergency bus and air services have been organised to carry about 10 per cent of the passengers normally carried by the railways. Troops will run many of these services. — Reuters.

Lumbago But No Gold

Harrismith, South Africa, Dec. 10.

A Harrismith farmer, Mr. A. W. de Beer, hired two "spiritualists," three witch doctors and "got through more digging in a day than I normally would do in two years," trying to locate £10,000 sterling in gold buried in his apple orchard.

The only result was "a magnificent attack of lumbago," but Mr. de Beer, whose grandfather buried the gold in the field for safety before the British entered the town in the South African War, is now going to try a mine detector.

"The money is there," he said. His grandfather buried it just after the field had been ploughed and just before torrential rain levelled the ground. The African who helped him was killed by lightning and the farmer of 50 years ago never gave away his secret. — China Mail Special.

RUSSIAN FISH STORY

Paris, Dec. 10.

Soviet fishermen in the Far East have caught an extremely rare kind of fish known as the moon fish. Moscow Radio reported today.

The fish is capable of laying 300,000,000 eggs a year. It is nearly 10 feet long, and has a beak-shaped mouth.

The radio said that this fish, found in the Pacific, emitted a powerful phosphorus glow when it surfaced at night—hence its name. — France-Press.

Scrap Iron Dealers Protest

Colombo, Dec. 10.

Scrap iron stockists here have lodged a protest with the Minister of Commerce and Trade that Japanese firms working hand in glove with brokers here have forced down the local market price.

One large stockist is reported to have informed the Government that a "ring" has been formed to tender for Government scrap iron stocks and to buy stocks in the hands of local importers at low rates.

The memorandum charged that the Japanese combine, "in collaboration with local connections," had recently submitted a tender at the rate of 73 rupees per ton for Government scrap. It said an American firm in New York, which offered 98 rupees 40 cents per ton succeeded in the tender.

ORDER CANCELLED

The complainant said that the American firm made the bid with the intention of shipping the scrap to mills in Japan but these mills on being advised that scrap could be obtained at a cheaper price decided to open the letters of credit and cancelled their order with the American firm.

It was understood that several stockists had demanded action by the Government to break a Japanese-Ceylonese combine "whose primary aim is to prevent the flow of scrap at the best prices obtainable." — United Press.

LABOUR LEADER RESIGNS

Washington, Dec. 10.

The President of the American Federation of Labour, George Meany, today resigned his advisory post as consultant to the Foreign Operations Administration of the government, because, he said, his labour programme had been demolished.

Mr. Meany made this accusation in his letter of resignation to the FAO Director, Mr. Harold Stassen. — France-Press.

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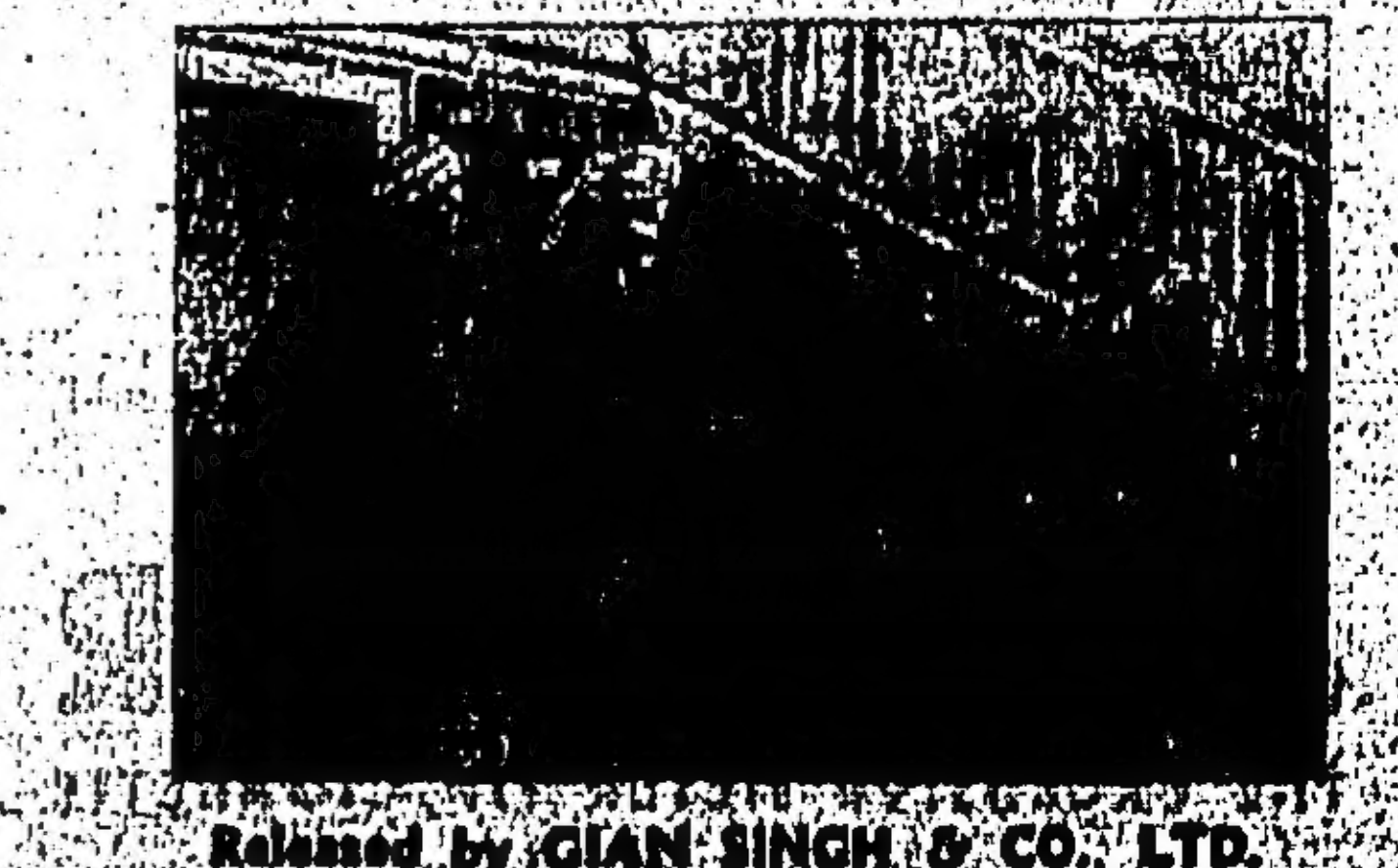


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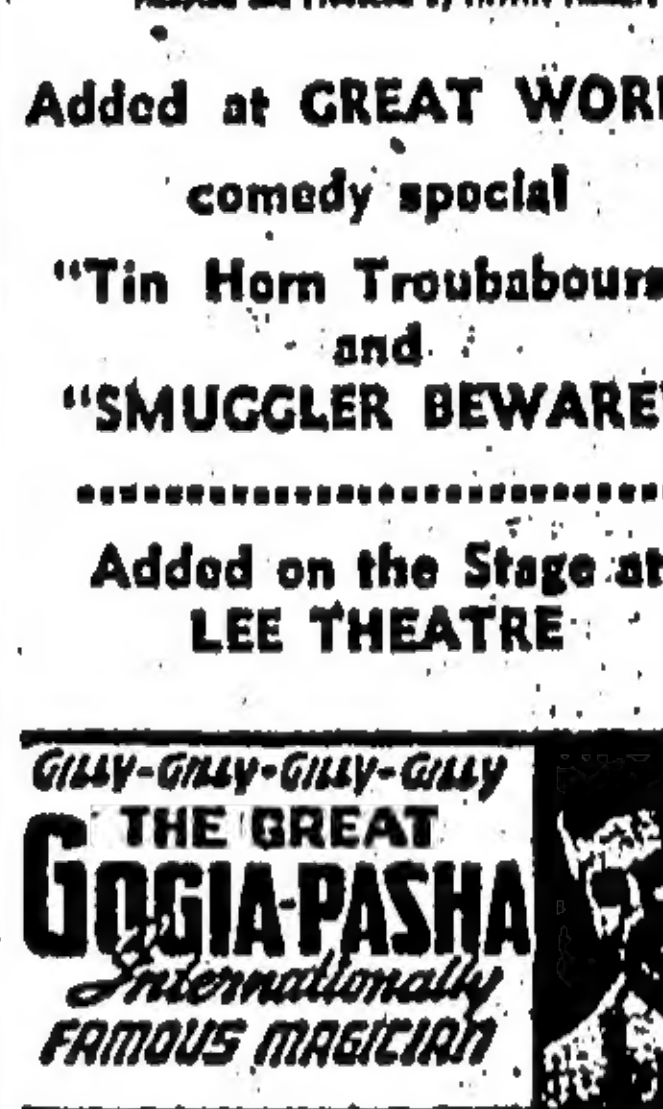
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REDS ATTACK EISENHOWER

Russian Intransigence May Doom Big Four Meeting

French Officials Dismiss New Communist Be Nice To France Campaign

London, Dec. 10.

Angry and disappointed British official quarters feared today that Russian intransigence will doom agreement at the Big Four meeting in Berlin.

As Soviet radios and newspapers blared out attacks on President Eisenhower's atomic plan and the Bermuda conference, British quarters became pessimistic about Russia's willingness to compromise.

But quarters here also hailed the welcome of the conference by the East German Vice-Premier, Walter Ulbricht, as an indication that the conference will go on.

Ulbricht did not say whether Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov would come on January 4 as proposed by the West.

Informed sources here noted how the Soviet and satellite Press and radio were urgently appealing to France for a closer alliance against Germany in an attempt to try to split the French from the Americans and British before the Berlin meeting.

And Russia's virtual rejection of President Eisenhower's atomic peace plan and the attacks on the Bermuda Big Three meeting left little doubt in British diplomatic quarters that the Kremlin is against a compromise.

CLOSE STUDY

These moves were under close study at the Foreign Office. They expected to confer soon with Washington and Paris.

Considerable attention was focused on the charge by Moscow Radio that President Eisenhower's atom pool offer and the Bermuda conference had proved the Western Powers' unwillingness to ease the international tension.

Diplomatic speculation suggested that this foreshadowed a very tough Soviet line in Berlin.

Official British quarters felt anger and disappointment at Russia's apparent refusal to co-operate in the world atom pool even before details of the plan have emerged.

RUSSIAN OFFER

Russia's Andrei Vyshinsky endorsed this rejection with a statement that nothing short of a prior atom bomb ban is acceptable to the Kremlin.

Simultaneously, an editorial in Moscow's Pravda and several satellite radios in effect extended an offer to France for the reinforcement of the Franco-Russian 1944 agreement of mutual assistance.

Pravda warned the French that they would otherwise be reduced to insignificance by the United States and Britain and lowered to the status of a small power if they accepted the European Army.

This was held to reaffirm anew that Russia will oppose German rearmament in Berlin and will go to almost any length to avert it, or else will bar German unification indefinitely.—United Press.

FRENCH OPINION

Paris, Dec. 10. French officials tonight dismissed the Soviet "be nice to France" campaign as a manoeuvre to divide the Western powers and to reinforce French opposition to the European Army.

These officials said an article in today's Soviet newspaper Pravda on the anniversary of the 1944 Franco-Soviet Pact was a blatant attempt to exploit French anxieties about German rearmament.

The French Foreign Office declined to make any official comment for the time being on the Soviet press and radio statement.

Russia had gone out of its way for some time to "woo" French public opinion in a bid

to cause friction among the Western powers, the French officials said.

It was clear that the Soviet leaders considered France to be the most vulnerable of the Western "Big Three" for such tactical manoeuvres, they added.

The Communist Party is certain to exploit the new Soviet approach towards France to the full in its nation-wide anti-European Army campaign. Qualified observers believe it might have some impact on public opinion.

GOOD WILL

But French parliamentarians are unlikely to be impressed unless Russia gives part of its good will by agreeing to a German and Austrian settlement at the Berlin Foreign Ministers' conference in January, political quarters said.

In any case the first Soviet reaction to President Eisenhower's proposals for control of atomic energy indicates that Russia is far from prepared to modify her policy in a fundamental manner, these sources added.

French officials described some of the statements contained in the Pravda article as "quite childish."

One example was a reference to the Soviet Government's 1941 offer to give France every assistance and co-operation in the joint struggle against Germany.

"The way the Russians gloss over the Soviet-German Pact of 1939, one of the main causes of the catastrophe of 1940, is typical of the naive Soviet approach," the officials commented.—Reuter.

Queuille Stands Good Chance In French Election

Paris, Dec. 10.

Former Radical Premier, M. Henri Queuille, is believed by political observers here to stand a good chance of being selected as the next President of France in the highly complicated political manoeuvring that is now going on to find a successor to President Vincent Auriol.

But, seven days before the presidential election, no candidate for the high office appeared to have rallied sufficient support to win an absolute majority on the first ballot.

The campaign is still being carried on gingerly and it is now clear that many candidates and many political groups are waiting until the eve of balloting or even the first ballot—there may have to be several—before assuming a definite stand.

Voting for the President will be 627 Deputies and 320 Senators and a winner will need at least 460 votes.

The groups are, at present, so divided—three are about ten groups—that the first ballot

is certain to be inconclusive. There will have to be additional balloting until a point is reached where a definite majority is gained.

If an impasse is reached, which some observers consider as likely, it may be necessary for some groups to draft President Auriol as a candidate.

Up to now, the President has energetically refused to permit his name to be suggested but he may be persuaded to renounce his decision if the election results in one stalemate after another.

Today the lobbies, forecasting the trend of the elections, are already asking: "Queuille or Auriol?"—France-Press.

American Reciprocal Trade Act Recommendation To Allow It To Expire

Washington, Dec. 10.

Edwin Wilkinson, representing the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, today recommended that the Reciprocal Trade Act be allowed to expire when it comes up for renewal next year.

Mr. Wilkinson said he thought that Congress should reassess the function of tariff and import quota regulation.

Mr. Wilkinson testified today in Republican Senator George Malone's Sub-Committee investigating the availability of strategic materials and facilities. He said that he had been against the Trade Act when it was approved, had been against it ever since and still was opposed to it.

"It is high time we conserved our resources," he declared. "We are not conserving them when we allow floods of imported products to destroy our domestic industries."

DETAILS LATER. Mr. Wilkinson did not specifically discuss the wool industry, but said that he would submit a detailed statement on the wool situation to the Committee later.

Mr. Tyrone Gillette, representing the Dow Chemical Company, told the Committee he believed that domestic industry must be protected from ruinous imports, but added "it is currency convertibility, rather than tariffs, which represent the key to the world trade picture."

Mr. Dewitt C. Echeick, Secretary of the Cordage Institute, said that raw materials used by the hard fibre cordage and twine industry were not available in the United States and must be imported.

HEALTHY CONDITION. He said that the industry was an essential one and must be maintained in a healthy condition "which can only be done through the assurance of a maximum normal business the United States market can afford."

Any circumstance tending to decrease the productive facilities of cordage and twine in the United States would be a serious blow to "our national peace-time economy and a deadly blow to our national defence," he said.

He added that the United States must import abaca and sisalana—principally from the Philippines, Indonesia, Africa and Central and South America—but that the manufacturing industry should be protected by a "reasonable" import tariff on hard fibre, cordage and twine products.—United Press.

India May Ban Crosswords

New Delhi, Dec. 10. The Indian Government is considering whether to ban crossword puzzles, Mr. B. N. Datar, Deputy Home Minister, told Parliament. Asked whether the proposed legislation would be applied only to crossword puzzles or to all similar puzzles, Mr. Datar said that the whole question was under Government study.—China Mail Special.

Actress To The Rescue

Ururapan, Mexico, Dec. 10.

Movie actress Susan Hayward sprained her ankle today when she jumped to the rescue of a seven-year-old Indian boy rolling off a lava ledge of the Parícutin volcano.

The boy and scores of natives had crowded around the cameras for the filming of "Garden of Evil" here and he was accidentally knocked down. The boy fell five feet to the ledge and was about to fall another 15 feet when the red-haired actress jumped down and caught him.

The boy was not hurt but Miss Hayward required first aid.

Director Henry Hathaway said that the injury would not interrupt production because the actress will be working on horseback.—United Press.

Japanese Glass In Hongkong

Tokyo, Dec. 11.

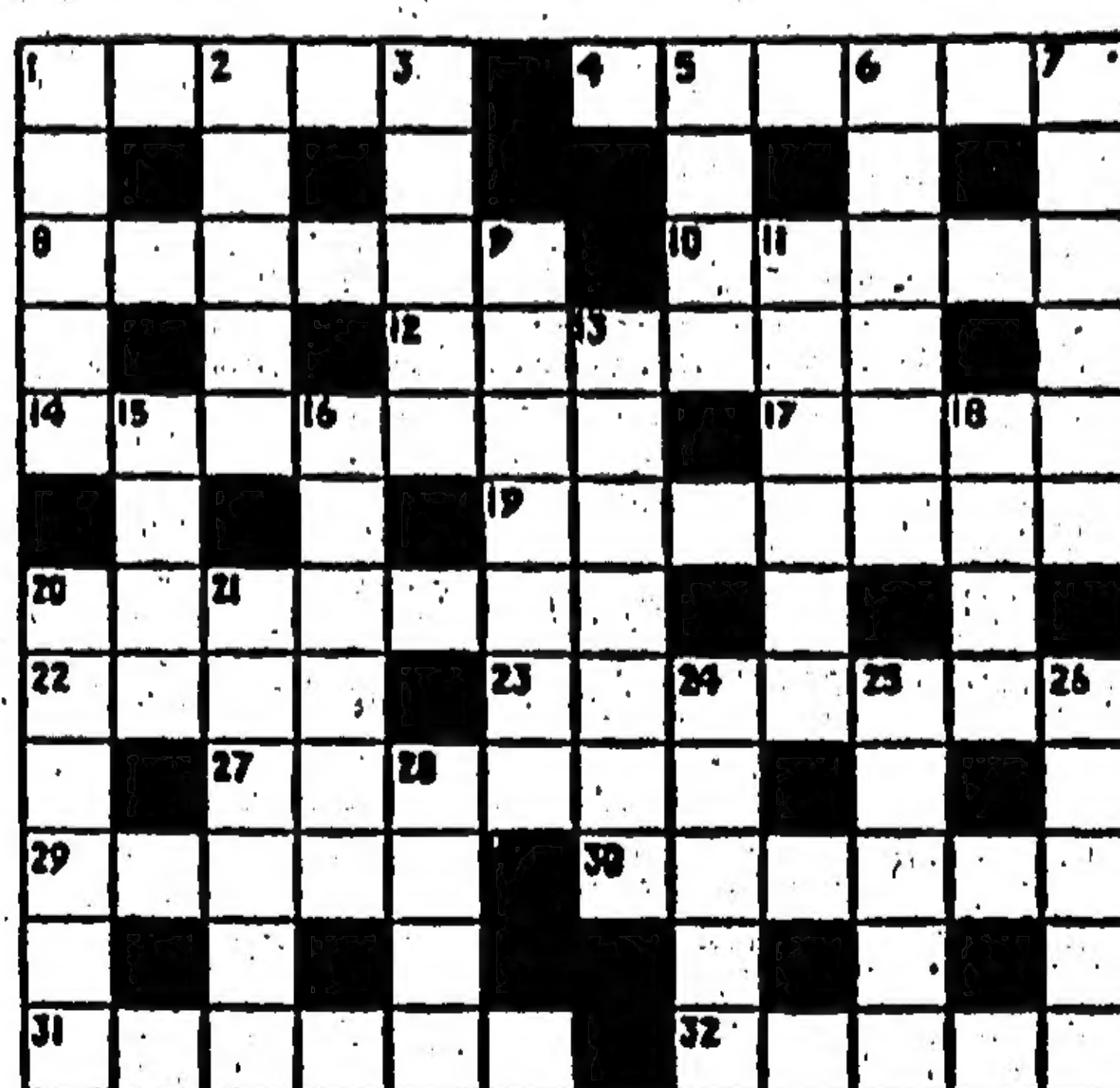
The Asahi Glass and Nihon Sheet Glass companies have shipped 1,500 cases of sheet glass to Hongkong in an effort to recover the British Colony's market for Japanese glass products, according to Japanese press reports today.

Until recently Hongkong has been the choice market for Japanese sheet glass but the inadequate supply of sheet glass by Japanese manufacturers caused Hongkong traders to buy goods from European countries.

The Asahi Glass Co. and the Nihon Sheet Glass Co. are now awaiting the reaction of Hongkong traders to test the shipment.

If reactions were favourable, they would ship another 1,500 cases shortly, the reports said.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- Choores (5).
 - Lithe (6).
 - Hang around (6).
 - Provide for (5).
 - Make effervescent (6).
 - Impe (7).
 - Trial (4).
 - Means (7).
 - Cautious (7).
 - Ireland (4).
 - Close relations (7).
 - Command (6).
 - Dodge (5).
 - Going astray (5).
 - Walk like a child (5).
 - Something special (5).

- DOWN
- Throb (5).
 - Principal (5).
 - Weapon (5).
 - One of royal race of Peru (4).
 - Material (6).
 - Earns (6).
 - Hermit (7).
 - Bear witness (6).
 - Turn into cash (7).
 - Close to (4).
 - Unclosed (6).
 - Agitate (4).
 - Join closely (6).
 - Irreverent (6).
 - Prop (5).
 - Banish (5).
 - Violate (5).
 - Cure (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: — Across: 3 Opponent, 8 Room, 9 Initiate, 11 Baroness, 12 Stem, 13 Depletor, 18 Retainer, 19 Rate, 21 Astorick, 25 Malinck, 26 Norn, 27 Allowings, Down: 1 Crab, 2 Pair, 4 Pine, 5 Oak, 6 Exact, 7 Tharm, 9 Inner, 10 Islet, 12 Arena, 14 Ewers, 16 Term, 17 Waves, 19 Rumba, 20 Total, 21 Anew, 22 Torn, 23 Idol, 24 Kind.

The Wilds Of Darkest Africa?



Under a galvanised iron roof at Elstree Studios England, 140 feet of Africa's mighty Zambesi River roared and swirled while two Hollywood stars fought to keep their canoe afloat.

No one knows how many thousands of years it took the real Zambesi to develop, but Elstree technicians did the job in seven days for a new film, "Duel in the Jungle" starring Jeanne Crain and Dana Andrews. The result is an ugly stretch of muddy water bordered on one side by tangled jungle with two 10 ft. electric paddles at one end of the 180 ft. long tank to keep the water racing and submerged hose. It's up into dangerous cross currents. The water was heated to 70 degrees in case either of the stars should fall in.—Express Photo.

French Control Dien Bien Phu

Paris, Dec. 10.

French control of the city of Dien Bien Phu in northern Vietnam had caused the French High Command to make the decision not to defend Laichau, capital of the Thai federation, now being menaced by the advancing Vietminh 316th Division, according to authorised military sources here today.

Thus, it was stated, an order had been issued to evacuate the civilian population from the small mountain town, the only interesting feature of which was its small air strip, which, for several months, had been used for supplying Thai guerrillas fighting in the jungle between the Chinese frontier and the Tonkin delta.

The President of the Thai Federation, 80-year-old, Doo van Long, is safe in Hanoi with his family, it was learned, and the High Council of the Federation has been transferred to Dien Bien Phu, following the occupation of that city by the Franco-Vietnamese forces three weeks ago.

It was pointed out here that the strategic situation of Dien Bien Phu was far more advantageous than that of Laichau—especially since heavy reinforcements had been sent into the former city.

Dien Bien Phu has now become the new headquarters of the Thai guerrillas and is only 40

Vietminh Rebel Claims

London, Dec. 10.

The Communist New China News Agency said today the Communist-led Vietminh rebel forces killed 2,500 French Union troops in North Vietnam during November.

Quoting a communique issued by the Vietminh Military High Command, the agency said the rebels captured 615 weapons including 180 machineguns, destroyed two railway coaches, four arms depots, 25 tanks and amphibious and transport vehicles.—Reuter.

US May Return Jap Islands

Tokyo, Dec. 11.

The Vice Foreign Minister, Mr. Katsuro Okumura, hinted at his press conference in the Foreign Office yesterday that official notes on the return of the "Amami-Oshima" islands group will be exchanged between Japan and the United States around December 30, according to Japanese press reports today.

Agreement, he said, had been reached between the governments of the two countries on substantial matters concerning the return of the islands except some minor technicalities.

Since technical adjustments can be made after the exchange of official notes, the date for the exchange of notes had been tentatively set for December 20, he added.—Reuter.

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"TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY" CHAPTER 24

THORNY QUESTION OF POLAND

By Sir Winston Churchill

THE Soviet-sponsored Lublin Government of Poland, or the "Warsaw" Government as the Russians of all names, preferred to call it, viewed the London Polish Government with bitter animosity. Feeling between them had got worse, not better, since our October meeting in Moscow.

Soviet troops were flooding across Poland, and the Polish Underground Army was freely charged with the murder of Russian soldiers and with sabotage and attacks on their rear areas and their lines of communication. Both access and information were denied to the Western Powers.

In Italy and on the Western Front nearly half a million Poles were fighting valiantly for the final destruction of the Nazi armies. They and many others elsewhere in Europe were eagerly looking forward to the liberation of their country and a return to their homeland from voluntary and honourable exile. The large community of Poles in the United States anxiously awaited a settlement between the three Great Powers.

The questions which we discussed may be summarised as follows:
How to form a single Provisional Government for Poland.

How and when to hold free elections.
How to settle the Polish frontiers, both in the east and the west.
How to safeguard the rear areas and lines of communication of the advancing Soviet armies.

When we met on Feb. 6 President Roosevelt opened the discussion by saying that, coming from America, he had a distant view on the Polish question. There were five or six million Poles in the United States, mostly of the second generation, and most of them were gradually in favour of the Curzon Line. They knew they would have to give up East Poland.

As compensation they would like East Prussia and part of Germany, or at any rate something with which to be compensated. As he had said at Tehran, it would make it easier for him if the Soviet Government would make some concession such as Lvov, and some of the oil-bearing lands, to counterbalance the loss of Königsberg. But the most important point was a permanent Government for Poland.

General opinion in the United States was against recognising the Lublin Government, because it represented only a small section of Poland and of the Polish nation. There was a demand for a Government of national unity, drawn perhaps from the five main political parties.

He knew none of the members of either the London or Lublin Governments. He had been greatly impressed by Mikolajczyk when he had come to Washington, and felt he was an honest man.

He therefore hoped to see the creation of a Government of Poland which would be representative, and which the great majority of Poles would support even if it was only an interim one. There were many ways in which it

in this instalment the Prime Minister begins his account of the discussions on Poland which occurred at seven out of eight plenary meetings of the Yalta Conference. Since the Prime Minister had brought together in Moscow the previous autumn representatives of the exiled Polish Government from London and the Communist "Polish National Committee" from Lublin, the Russians had recognised the latter as a Provisional Government.

Meanwhile, M. Mikolajczyk, the Polish Premier, who had been to the Moscow meeting, had been disowned by his colleagues in London, and had resigned.

might be formed, such as creating a small Presidential Council to take temporary control and set up a more permanent institution.

I then said it was my duty to state the position of His Majesty's Government. I had repeatedly declared in Parliament and in public my resolution to support the claim of the U.S.S.R. to the Curzon Line as interpreted by the Soviet Government. That meant including Lvov in the U.S.S.R. I had been considerably criticised in Parliament (as had the Foreign Secretary) and by the Conservative Party for this.

BUT I had always thought that, after the agonies Russia had suffered in defending herself against the Germans, and her great deeds in driving them back and liberating Poland, her claim was founded not on force but on right. If, however, she made a gesture of magnanimity to a much weaker Power, and some territorial concession, such as the President had suggested, we should both admire and acclaim the Soviet action.

But a strong, free, and independent Poland was much more important than particular territorial boundaries. I wanted the Poles to be able to live freely and live their own lives in their own way. That was the object which I had always heard Marshal Stalin proclaim with the utmost firmness, and it was because I trusted his declarations about the sovereignty, independence, and freedom of Poland that I rated the frontier question as less important.

This was dear to the hearts of the British nation and the Commonwealth. It was for this that we had gone to war against Germany—that Poland should be free and sovereign. Everyone knew what a terrible risk we had taken when we had gone to war in 1939 although so ill-armed, it had nearly cost us our life, not only as an Empire but as a nation.

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though it would cost Russia much blood, so that Poland could be compensated at Germany's expense.

When Mikolajczyk had been in Russia during October he had asked what frontier for Poland Russia would recognise in the West, and he had been delighted to hear that Russia thought the western frontier of Poland should be extended to the Neisse. There were two rivers of that name, said Stalin, one near Breslau, and another farther west. It was the Western Neisse he had in mind, and he asked the Conference to support his proposal.

TALIN then pointed out that we could not create a Polish Government unless the Poles themselves agreed to it. Mikolajczyk and Grabski had come to Moscow during my visit there. They had met the Lublin Government, a measure of agreement had been reached, and Mikolajczyk had gone to London on the understanding that he would come back instead of that he had been turned out of office by his colleagues, simply because he favoured an agreement with the Lublin Government.

The Polish Government in London were hostile to the very idea of the Lublin Government, and described it as a company of bandits and criminals. The Lublin Government had paid them back in their own coin, and it was now very difficult to do anything about it.

The Lublin or Warsaw Government, as it should now be called, wanted to have nothing to do with the London Government. They had told him they would accept Gen. Zeligowski and Grabski, but they would not hear of Mikolajczyk becoming Prime Minister. "Talk to them if you like," he said in effect. "I will get them to meet you here or in Moscow, but they are just as democratic as de Gaulle, and they can keep the peace in Poland and stop civil war and attacks on the Red Army."

The London Government could not do this. Their agents had killed 212 Russian soldiers; they were connected with the Polish underground resistance and had raided supply dumps to get arms. Their radio stations were operating without permission and without being resisted.

The agents of the Lublin Government had been helpful; and the agents of the London Government had done much evil. It was vital for the Red Army to have safe rear areas, and it was equally vital for the Polish underground resistance to have support. The Government which could guarantee to provide them.

It was now late in the evening, and the President returned to his room. I thought it right to state that the United Kingdom and the Soviet Government had different sources of information. Poland and had received different accounts of what had happened. I said that according to our information not more than one-third of the Polish people would support the Lublin Government if they were free to express their opinion.

This estimate of course was based on the best information which we could obtain, and we might be mistaken in certain particulars. I assured Stalin that we had greatly feared a collision between the Polish Underground Army and the Lublin Government. We had feared that this would lead to bitterness, bloodshed, arrests and deportations, and that was why we had been so anxious for a joint arrangement.

We feared the effect which all this would have on the Polish question, already difficult enough. We recognised, of course, that attacks on the Red Army must be punished. But on the facts at my disposal I could not feel that the Lublin Government had a right to say that they represented the Polish nation.

The President was now anxious to end the discussion. "Poland," he remarked, "has been a source of trouble for over 500 years." "All the more," I answered, "must we do what we can to put an end to these troubles." We then adjourned.

(Continued Tomorrow)

SIXTH WINTER OF DESPAIR

From JAMES LEASOR

MORE than half a million men, women and children are facing their sixth winter in Jordan in skin tents, lean-to huts, mud shacks and caves in the earth.

They are the wretched people who were driven out of their homes in Palestine during the Arab-Jew fight in 1948, and their state is a little better than it five years ago.

Most still have only the clothes they stand up in, ragged and threadbare. And nothing at all has been done to provide compensation for those whose homes have been occupied by the Israelis and whose money has been seized in their bank accounts.

Jordan is a poor country, mostly rock with a thin sheet of earth on it. There are few mineral deposits or natural resources.

Thus the Jordanians must work bitterly hard to scrape their own meagre existence. There is little hope of betterment for large numbers of refugees.

The refugees live in huge encampments in the hills outside Amman and in the plain near Jericho.

The United Nations has started a small tent-making factory near Jericho, but can only employ 200 refugees—a tiny proportion of the total.

FOOD DOLE

FOR the most part they exist on a food dole from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. The issue is slightly more than a pound of sugar and rice monthly, 20 pounds of flour, some lentils and one cake of soap. But for this cruel, crowds of hungry and hopeless people would certainly be roaming Amman's streets nightly raiding for food.

Of the thousands thus wretchedly encamped round Amman, only a handful have given up their refugee status and free ration to move into 50 small houses which UNRWA and the Jordan government have provided for them in the capital.

By so doing, they feel they abandon all hope of returning to their Palestine homes. Most of them are not prepared to do this. They live in confidence that one day they will return to their old lives and start again. And nothing can shake this faith.

Although for five years they have been homeless—and an official state of war has existed between Arab countries and Israel—there is surprising little anti-Jewish feeling in the camps. Typical is the reaction expressed by 38-year-old Bazil Abou Ghazal, who used to own a large garage in Jericho. Now he is reduced to peddling an old car he managed to bring away with him as a taxi for tourists, and he says: "The Jews were among my best customers; we got along fine."

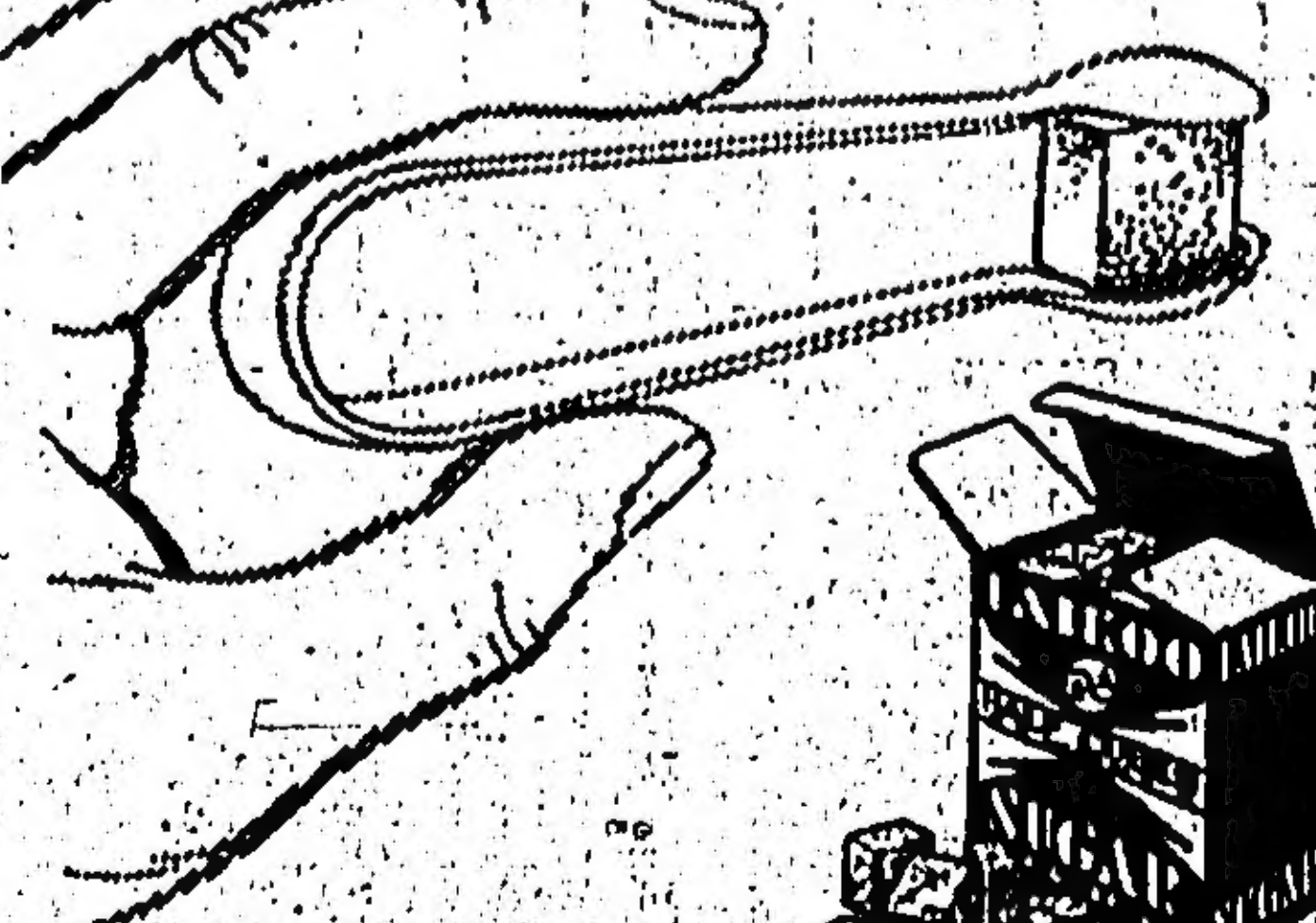
Thus, half a million souls exist on the cold, raw hills, remembering their homes, with little hope for the future.

Here is trouble being stored up for tomorrow, an amalgam of hate and bitterness, truth larded with a legend of martyrdom.

Apart from the rations distributed by UNRWA and talk at Lake Success, it seems to many of these Amman ciphers that no one seems to care. The terrible thing is they may be right.

TAIKOO!

"One Lump-or Two?"



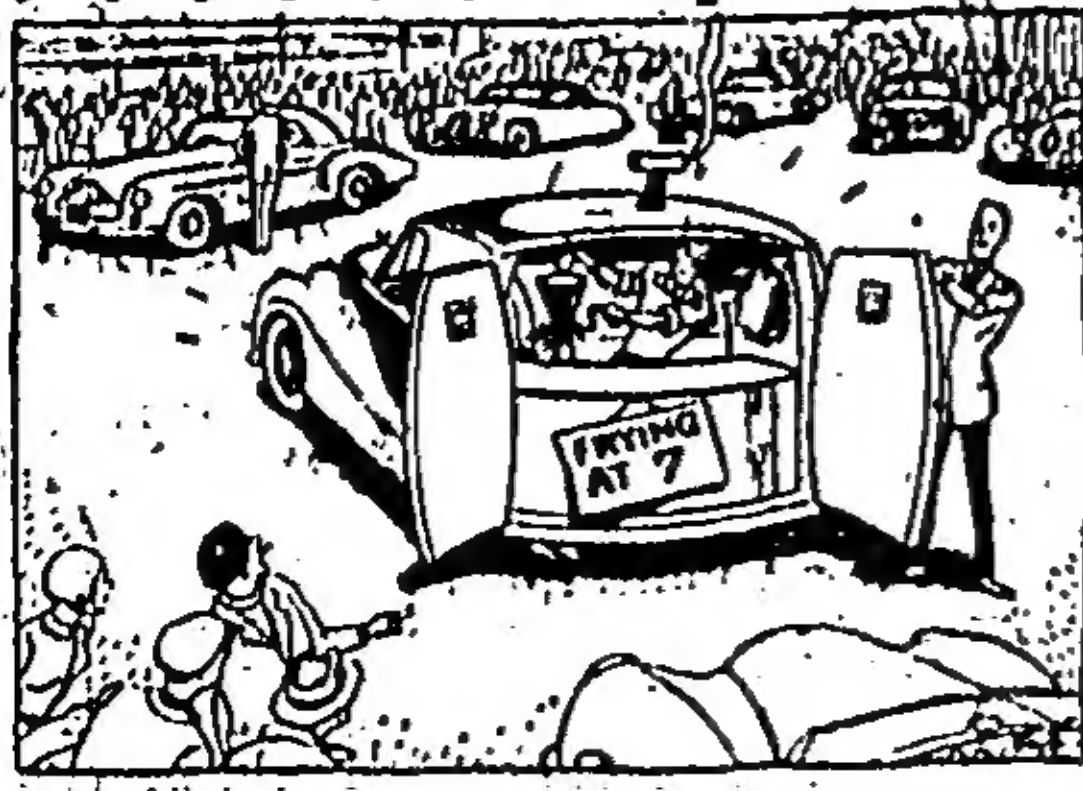
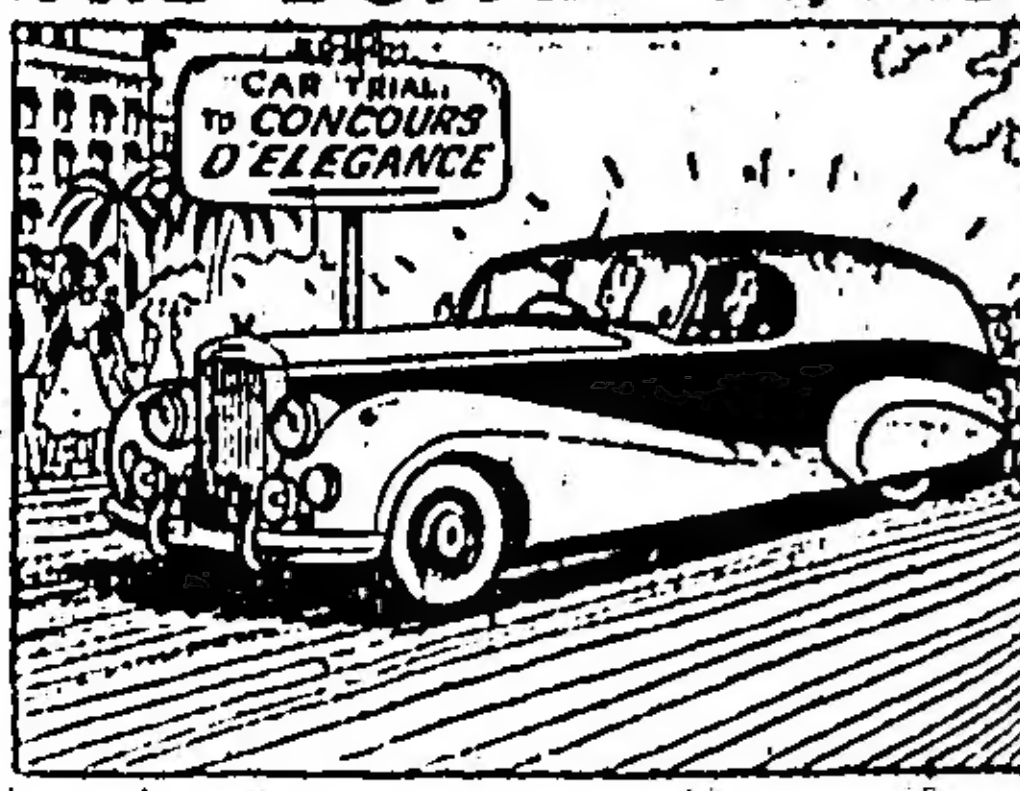
TAIKOO SUGAR

TAIKOO Half Cubes

obtainable from all shops and stores.

THE DUFFLE TWINS

by DODD



BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

CHARLIE SUET has not forgotten the exquisite Slopcomer girl. Almost every day the young man brings leaflets and pamphlets to the Slopcomer residence.

The fact that few of them have any connection with the obtaining of permits for licenses for mobile cars, though on wheels, seems to indicate that the gifts are merely an excuse to keep the Slopcomer memory green in that wayward heart. When Slopcomer here asks who is filling the house with literature about regulations, a day for Slopcomer, the duty on Danish paper-weight purchases, tax on draughts and die-inking, Miss Slopcomer, with a motherly interest, gives him a Slopcomer's rule. "I never say it takes all sorts to make a world," she concludes the complacent chattering.

Macbeth on ice

THE forthcoming production of "Macbeth" on ice will probably produce a little more interest in the play than the usual production. Scating provides such opportunities for the play that the question whether to make it a winter or a summer play is a matter of opinion.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

BORN today, the stars have given you the talent for making money—as well as the ability to hang on to it. You might do well to do a little more of the latter than the former. Remember that you can't take it with you. Learn how to play a little more of the latter than the former. You are inclined to be a "wrecker" and must not let your bridges before you come to them.

Artistic and musical, you will probably have a career in some musical instrument. This gift should be developed and you might select musical career with excellent prospects for professional success. Since you have a talent for speaking in public, you would be a good lecturer, attorney, or even a politician. But you must be allowed to do your own thing.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)—Not much more than two weeks left to take care of all your Christmas preparations. Better get busy!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—If you have work that must be done, get it over with early this morning and then you can relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Get everything that needs to be sent by mail into the post office today, lest it arrive too late.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Better to cover your check list of remembrances very carefully over this week-end and be sure.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—You will probably have a very busy week-end, so get an early start and stick to a careful schedule.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Be sure that you attend to those little things that must be done before Christmas.

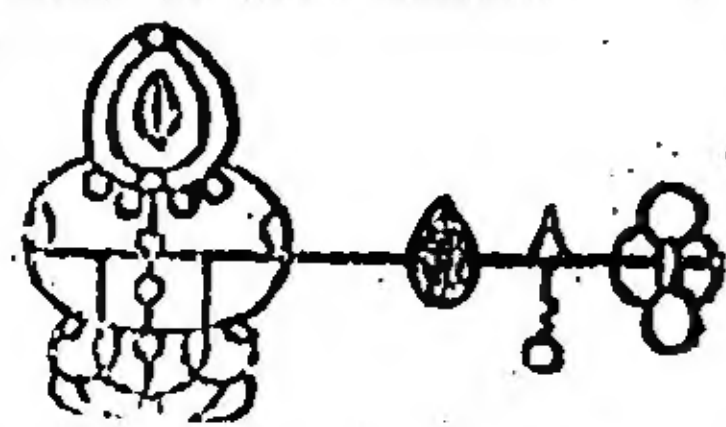
GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—If you have had a rough week and feel fatigued with the results, take time out to relax today. Only one more day before Christmas.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)—Don't get into any arguments. Even a minor misunderstanding might ruin up in a quarrel this peace-maker.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 23)—Last-minute details for home celebration can be taken care of if you have mailed all out-of-town gifts.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—You may need to let down tensions today, to relax with a good book or some soft music.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—This should be a pleasant week-end especially if you have not all



The dawn of hope

The dawn of hope. The American soldier, which enables victims of television to cut off the sound, leaving only the picture, is a step in the right direction. I expect it will be followed by another gadget which will cut off both sound and picture. All that will be needed then, to create money, will be a third gadget which will make it impossible for anybody to switch the thing on.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

It's Worth Knowing The Slam Double

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♥ A 10 5			
♦ K Q J 4			
♣ K Q J 4			
EAST			
♠ 5 4 2			
♥ None			
♦ 9 8 3			
♣ A 7 3 2			
SOUTH			
♠ A K J 9 8			
♥ K Q J			
♦ A K 10			
♣ 10 8			
Neither side vul.			
North	East	South	West
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6 ♠	Pass	7 ♠	Pass
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32 ♠	Pass	33 ♠	Pass
33 ♠	Pass	34 ♠	Pass
34 ♠	Pass	35 ♠	Pass
35 ♠	Pass	36 ♠	Pass
36 ♠	Pass	37 ♠	Pass
37 ♠	Pass	38 ♠	Pass
38 ♠	Pass	39 ♠	Pass
39 ♠	Pass	40 ♠	Pass
40 ♠	Pass	41 ♠	Pass
41 ♠	Pass	42 ♠	Pass
42 ♠	Pass	43 ♠	Pass
43 ♠	Pass	44 ♠	Pass
44 ♠	Pass	45 ♠	Pass
45 ♠	Pass	46 ♠	Pass
46 ♠	Pass	47 ♠	Pass
47 ♠	Pass	48 ♠	Pass
48 ♠	Pass	49 ♠	Pass
49 ♠	Pass	50 ♠	Pass
50 ♠	Pass	51 ♠	Pass
51 ♠	Pass	52 ♠	Pass

By OSWALD JACOBY

EAST'S double of six spades is the chief point of today's hand. It illustrates the slam double as this is practiced by most of the leading experts today.

You don't double a slam just because you want to exact a higher penalty from your opponents. Such a double stands to gain only 50 or 100 points, since experienced opponents will hardly ever bid a slam that you want more than one trick and it stands to lose about 200 to 400 points if the slam is actually made, depending on whether or not the declarer can afford to redouble.

Once in a while, such a double lays a very large amount of money in your pocket. The winning line of play when he would have played the hand normally and would have gone down if he had not been warned by the double.

The modern expert slam double says merely, "Partner, make an unusual opening lead and we will probably beat this slam." The idea of this double is not merely to gain 50 or 100 points; it is to defeat the slam runner than to allow it to be made.

The difference between making a slam and not making it is over 1,000 points, and you don't mind exposing yourself to an occasional loss when you can score as big a gain as that.

In today's hand West had no trouble in deciding which lead his partner wanted. East could not want a diamond lead since he had had a chance to double five diamonds and had not done so. The choice was therefore between hearts and clubs.

It was conceivable that East had two fast club tricks, but if that happened to be the case, West would have a chance to double five diamonds and had not done so. The choice was therefore between hearts and clubs.

West's length in hearts suggested that his partner wanted a heart ruff. If this happened to be the case, only an immediate heart lead would do the trick. If West led anything else, declarer would naturally draw trumps promptly.

Acting on this reasoning, West led a heart, giving his partner a ruff. East then cashed the ace of clubs to defeat the contract.

South should have run to six no-trump on this hand to avoid the ruff. In actual practice, few declarers run out to six no-trump when doubled at a suit. More often, they stand by their guns; and sometimes they even redouble.

Q—With both sides vulnerable, the bidding has been:

North: East: South: West:

1 Diamond Double ?

You, South, hold: Spades 5-3-2, Hearts 9-8-3, Diamonds 4, Clubs K-Q-J-9-8-7. What do you do?

A—Bid two clubs. You must have a good suit to raise the level of the bidding. Your hand should be worth five tricks at a club contract, but it may be a dead-loss if your partner plays the hand at diamond.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding has been:

South: North: East: West:

1 Heart Pass 1 Spade Pass ?

You, South, hold: Spades 8-3, Hearts A-Q-J-7-5, Diamonds K-9-3, Clubs K-8-4. What do you do?

A—Pass. You have a good suit to raise the level of the bidding. Your hand should be worth five tricks at a club contract, but it may be a dead-loss if your partner plays the hand at diamond.

WOMANSENSE

By Garry C. Myers, Ph.D.

EFFECT OF DIVORCE ON THE CHILD

THERE are 9,000,000 stepchildren in the United States, 1,000,000 of them between the ages of ten and sixteen, and their number is increasing, due to the high divorce rate and casualties in recent wars.

Remarriage often brings into the home a new child or children. If the husband brings some of his children, and the wife brings some of hers, and they have a new set of children, "Your children and my children and our children" can multiply the problems. And stepchildren mean new and added in-laws to complicate matters further. Scene in the dark experience of stepchildren by Dr. William Carlson.

Smith, in "The Stepchild," Dr. Smith finds that the stepchild contributes more than his quota to juvenile delinquency, that girls are more affected by a broken home than boys and by a stepfather than by a stepmother.

Feeling of Insecurity

He says that "when a home that has been filled with conflicts finally breaks through separation or divorce, the children do not by that action all at once become happily adjusted. There had been a feeling of insecurity, but such a crisis usually compensates that feeling. The children are actually thrust into a great unknown, upon what to them is an uncharted sea."

The notes that the children usually stay with the mother, and that if she goes, these children have to make adjustments to the grandparents and other relatives. So does their mother, who is a very different person from what she was when she left this home to marry.

Consider the tug at the child's heartstrings by all the relatives and the possibility of increasing animosity toward the other parent. If the court should "cut a child in two," by assigning him part-time to one parent and part-time to the other, even if the parents have moved far away from each other, the child, Dr. Smith continues, "is apt to be under a taboo upon what he can say concerning events in the other household. Not only must he suppress part of his memories, but he must alter his personal habits and his family terminology each time that a shift is made."

A Parroted Half-Truth

Writing about Dr. Smith's study, Dr. Paul Popenoe says in his bulletin, "Family Life": "His comments on the effect of divorce are particularly pertinent because of the half-truth so regularly parroted by women divorcing their husbands, that it is better to bring up a child in a peaceful home with one parent, than with an atmosphere of conflict with two parents. The logical solution would be to remove the conflict—a task frequently accomplished—rather easily by competent marriage counseling... the court decree does not always bring peace!"

However, Dr. Smith notes that many stepchildren have proved successful with the stepchild and calls to mind the devotion of Abraham Lincoln whose stepmother, widow Sarah Bush Johnson, came to him three years after his real mother's death. We all know some divorced persons who have also been good stepchildren. Truly they deserve applause for their achievement.

Obviously, the stepchild whose one parent is dead faces fewer problems, as a rule, than if both parents are divorced.

Take your jewellery right off the tree



CHRISTMAS PARTY Jewellery has never been gayer and less expensive. Sheradski has sketched necklaces and earrings made from the pretty baubles that festoon Christmas trees and tinsel railings.

Clip earrings carry tiny bunches of mistletoe or miniature bright red crackers. Attractive new ideas include mobile pearl drop earrings, Viking armlets set with coloured stones, and birdcage silk earrings with small gilt and decorations by day, which unobtrusively make way for diamante studs for evening.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The Magician Goes for a Swim

—He Turned Himself into a Duck, Then a Frog—

By MAX TRELL

KNAIF and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, were sitting on a rock at the edge of the pond with their toes dangling in the water. They couldn't make up their minds whether to go in for a swim or not, for it was still early in the morning and the water felt a little cold.

Footsteps on the Path

It was at this moment that they heard footsteps on the path behind them and turning around, they saw their friend Mr. Merlin the Magician walking toward them, a smile on his cheerful face.

Mr. Merlin was wearing a bathing suit. He was also carrying a large, black book, which looked thick enough to be a dictionary.

"Howdy!" greeted Mr. Merlin, as he came up to Knarf and Hanid and stood at the edge of the pond looking out over the water.

"Are you going in swimming, Mr. Merlin?" asked Knarf.

"It all depends," replied Mr. Merlin.

"Depends on what?" asked Knarf.

Maybe Just A Paddle

"Depends on whether the water is warm or cold. If it's cold, I'll just go in for a paddle."

Hanid now told Mr. Merlin that in her opinion the water was certainly cold. "But how can you go for a paddle?" she asked with some curiosity.

"You mean you're just going to stand in shallow water and paddle your hands about?"

"Not at all," said Mr. Merlin. "I intend to paddle all around the pond. I'll be ready to do it in a minute."

Saying this, Mr. Merlin opened the book, Knarf and Hanid caught a glance of the words on the cover of the book. The words read, "Magic Swimming Rules for Magicians."

Mr. Merlin looked at one of the pages inside the book, then nodded, then mumbled some strange words. There was a puff of smoke, and a sudden loud quacking noise.

A Duck Paddle

The next second, Knarf and Hanid were astonished to see Mr. Merlin, covered with white feathers, paddling around the pond like a duck.

In the middle of the pond, he further astonished his two friends by tipping over and sticking his head deep down under the water with his legs

high up in the air. Then he came paddling back. As soon as he stepped on dry land, he turned himself back into his regular shape again.

"That was a pretty good paddle," he told Knarf and Hanid. "Ducks just sit on the top of the water and move their legs up and down, as though they were climbing stairs. But it's not really swimming. It's just a duck's way of looking at another page this time."

"Ah," he said, "this suits me to a T. I'll dive into the pond, swim under water a bit, turn around, and dive back out again. Just watch me!"

Mr. Merlin mumbled some more strange words, while Knarf and Hanid wondered what he was going to turn into now.

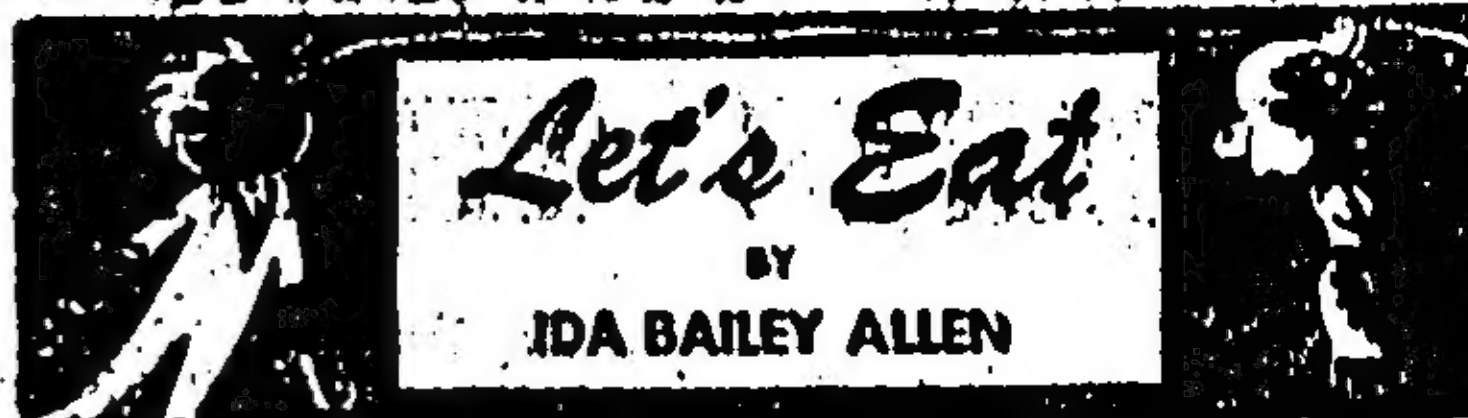
They soon saw. Again there was a puff of smoke, followed by a gruff, grunting sound. Something large and green splashed through the air and splashed into the water.

A Green Frog

It looked like an enormous green frog. It was, of course, Mr. Merlin. They could see his long legs scissoring across the water. Then he swirled around, scissored back toward where they were sitting, then came springing out through the water, and landed with a plop right next to them.

An instant later, he was back in his original shape again.

"Swimming like a frog is really fine," he explained to Knarf and Hanid, "but still it



Preserving Nutritive Values In Vegetables

WE need more bulk in our diet, and less starch. The answer lies in eating more fruits and vegetables, fresh or frozen. These foods furnish sweeping bulk when raw, soft, but if cooked, some proteins and carbohydrates; a variety of vitamins, especially A and C; and a wide assortment of the minerals essential to life.

These vital elements are present, if fruits and vegetables are prepared properly. In any case, before using, all fruits and vegetables should be thoroughly washed in cold water. Indications at the stem ends should then be thoroughly rinsed, to remove all traces of the insecticides sprayed on them while growing.

Cooking Fresh Vegetables

When it comes to cooking vegetables, use a minimum amount of water to preserve flavour, nutrients, and colour. The amount of salt needed is very little, in line with the medical trend for low salt diets. Season the vegetables with butter or margarine, and add a little monosodium glutamate to bring up the flavour when cooked. As the liquid is practically evaporated, there is none to pour down the sink. Serve what is left in sauce dishes poured over the vegetables.

Panned Root Vegetables

For carrots, turnips, parsnips, beets, salsify, celeriac and potatoes. Use the following method:

White Potato Pudding

Coarse-grate 6 good-sized peeled white potatoes. Place in a saucepan; add 1 in. boiling water and 1/2 tsp. salt. Boil rapidly 5 min. Beat 3 grade A eggs. Add 2 tsp. melted butter, margarine or chicken fat, 1/4 tsp. pepper, 1/2 c. sour cream, 1/2 c. milk, 1/4 tsp. fine-grated onion, and 1 tsp. minced parsley. Stir in the potato and liquid. Transfer to a well-buttered 2-cup pudding dish. Place in a pan; surround with hot water. Bake about 45 min. or until firm in a moderately hot oven, 350°-375° F.

Walnut Squares

Stir 1/2 c. butter, margarine or shortening until creamy. Gradually work in 1/2 c. sugar and 3 beaten eggs. Add 1/2 c. flour (A or B). Stir together 1/2 c. already-sifted enriched flour, 2 1/2 tsp. baking powder and 1/4 tsp. salt. Add 1/4 c. finely-chopped walnuts. Stir alternately into the first mixture with 1/2 c. milk. Last fold in 2 eggs white beaten stiff. Use the remaining egg white in making the frosting. Transfer the batter to an oiled 7x11-in. baking pan; bake 45 min. in a moderate oven, 375° F. Turn onto a cake rack to cool. Cover with plain whipped egg-white icing. Mark in 2-in. squares and put 1 whole walnut meat on each. Serve cut in squares.

Use either English, or black walnuts for this cake.

Cozy Suit

By GRACE THORNGUFFE

A SPLENDID choice of color, the camel hair and wool lined in plaid wool challis to match the blouse. The body jacket sports a half belt in back and has two curved patch pockets at the hips and one at the waist. The blouse is straight. The blouse blouse has long sleeves, a good country style, and excellent for the country, because it is practical, yet pretty and cozy.

Mr. Merlin, looking just like a duck, went paddling.

Isn't really swimming. I'll try it once more.

This time Mr. Merlin didn't look in his book at all. He took a run and jumped into the water. Knarf and Hanid wondered what he was going to turn into.

But Mr. Merlin didn't turn into anything at all. He remained himself. He kicked his feet, swung his arms and swam the way everybody else swam. From the water, he shouted back to Knarf and Hanid: "This is better than paddling like a duck! This is better than scissoring like a frog! This is just plain Unmagical Swimming. Come on in! The water's fine!"

So Knarf and Hanid took Mr. Merlin's advice and went in for a real swim. Though there was no magic about it, it was enchanting fun, swimming and diving and floating.

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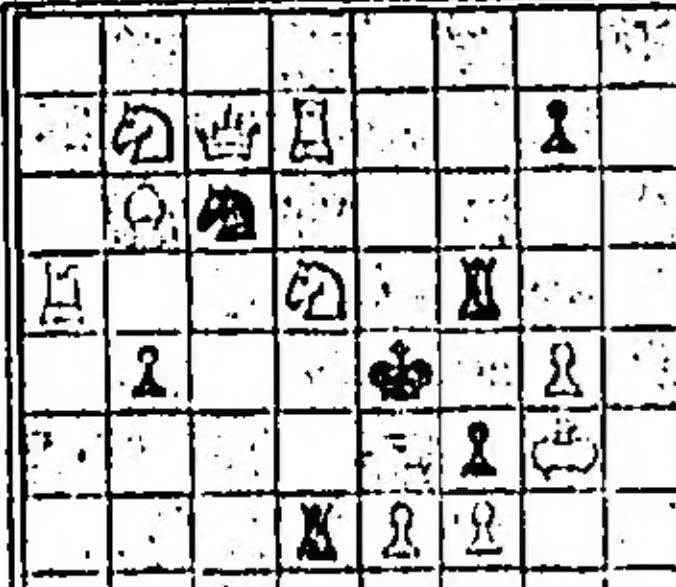
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CHESS PROBLEM

By P. OVERKAMP

Black, 7 pieces.



White, 10 pieces.

White to play; mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. R-R4; threat 2. B-Q6 (dis ch); 1... P-K5 (dis ch); 2. B-K5; 2... B-B7; 1... K-K5; 2. B-R2 (dis ch); 1... P-D4; 2. B-K15 (dis ch).

SOLUTION TO CHECK YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

1. Assurance starts with telling (1).

2. One way to get dictatorial power (2).

3. One way to get dictatorial power (3).

4. One way to get dictatorial power (4).

POMPEE COULD BEAT OLSON, EXPERTS THINK

London, Dec. 10. A definite threat to the reign of Carl "Bobo" Olson as Middleweight Champion of the World has risen in the person of Trinidad-born Yolande Pompee, Britain's greatest hope for many years past.

British boxing experts, who watched a tigerish Pompee finish off the experienced American, Jimmy King, in two rounds at Jack Solomon's Harringay Arena tournament on Tuesday night, are convinced that Olson could not have stood up to Pompee's punching.

Sealed down from his cruiserweight poundage to just one and three-quarter pounds above the middleweight limit of 160 lbs. Pompee made the stylish and experienced American as helpless as a raw novice. And, on his performance at Harringay, he could have beaten any middleweight in the world, according to ring-side commentators.

SHEER ALARM

Critics who saw the fight said that Pompee fought with more venom and menace than any boxer has shown. He went after King like a tiger and, on one occasion when the American came weaving and stopped a right, his face showed sheer alarm as he went back quickly from a man who had obviously hit him harder than he had ever been hit before.

But it was all in vain—and King went out like a light from Pompee's devastating right hand.

Pompee showed speed and power and his weight reduction did not seem to worry him. The punch that ended the fight was more devastating than Randolph Turpin's best when that fighter was on top of his form, but Jack Burns, Pompee's manager, is not looking to Turpin, the British middleweight title-holder, as Pompee's next opponent.

Burns wants Olson—in London or in New York. If he fails to get the Champion, then he will either Paddy Young or Emilio Durando, who are among the top contenders.

Welsh Team To Play The All Blacks

Cardiff, Dec. 11. The Welsh Rugby Union selectors have followed the pattern of the final trial match in choosing their side to meet New Zealand here on December 19.

Only one of the Probables team who beat Possibles by 22 points to 10 has been omitted from the side. He is L. Davies, the Newport hooker, who is stood down in favour of D. Davies of Somerset. Pollock, L. Davies came into the Probables side in the trial only because of an injury to D. Davies.

The team is G. Williams (London Welsh); K. Jones (Newport); G. Griffiths (Cardiff); B. L. Williams (Cardiff, captain); C. Rowlands (Cardiff); C. Morgan (Cardiff); R. Williams (Swansea); D. Davies (Somerset); C. Meredith (Neath); R. John (Neath); J. A. Gwilliam (Gloucester); N. G. Davies (London Welsh); Rees Stephens (Neath) and R. C. Thomas (Swansea).

Rowlands and N. G. Davies are new "caps." Cardiff, who provide five of the side's backs, are the only club to have beaten the All Blacks so far on the present tour.—Reuter.

League Snooker

Eastern "A" beat the Dockyard Recreation Club 4-1 in a George Younger Snooker League game last night.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Draft Programmes and Entry Forms for the 6th Race Meeting 1953/54 to be held on Friday 1st and Saturday 9th January, 1954, (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House, the Club House, Happy Valley and the Stables, Shean Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Tuesday 16th December, 1953.

By Order of the Stewards, H. MISA, Secretary.

Table Tennis Seeding Lists Announced

London, Dec. 10. Tomio Nishimura of Japan is rated Number Seven woman player in a provisional list of world table tennis rankings issued by the Seeding Committee of the International Federation today.

Angelle Rozeanu of Rumania heads the women's list and Ferenc Sido of Hungary the men's.

The list has been issued as guidance for seeding in the 1953/54 competitions.

The first ten in the men's list are:

1. Ferenc Sido (Hungary).
2. Richard Bergmann (England).
3. Ivan Andreads (Czechoslovakia).
4. Aubrey Simons (England).
5. L. Stipo (Czechoslovakia).
6. Johnny Leach (England).
7. René Roothoot (France).
8. Josef Kocian (Hungary).
9. F. Tokar (Czechoslovakia).
10. Bohumil Vana (Czechoslovakia).

WOMEN'S LIST

- The women's list is:
1. Angelle Rozeanu (Rumania).
 2. Gizl Farkas (Hungary).
 3. Rosalind Rowe (England).
 4. Linde Werli (Austria).
 5. Diane Rowe (England).
 6. Trude Pritzi (Austria).
 7. Tomio Nishimura (Japan).
 8. Hruskova (Czechoslovakia).
 9. K. K. K. (Czechoslovakia).
 10. Helen Elliott (England).

REUTER.

MALAYANS LEAVE FOR BANGKOK

Unofficial World Badminton Champion Wong Pen-soon and his touring team, including Cheong Choo-choy, Abdulh Piruz and Lim Koon-yam, left for Bangkok by a C.P.A. plane this morning after completing a series of five exhibition matches in Hongkong.

They will be joined in Bangkok by their team manager, Mr. King Soong-heng, who had to leave the team in Taipei and fly back to Singapore owing to the death of his father.

The Malaysian shuttlers are due to play four matches in Bangkok before returning to Malaya just in time for Christmas.

The Malaysians are accompanied by the Colony Ladies' Singles Champion, Ullian Khoo, and the Ladies' Singles runner-up, Helen Kwong, both of whom have been invited by the Bangkok Ende Badminton Club to participate in the matches to be played by the Malaysians in Bangkok.

WEEK-END SOFTBALL

The following are the umpires selected for softball League matches this week-end:

TOMORROW

Junior—2.30 p.m. C.A.A. (1) v. Maunaua (Ground A); umpires, J. Herick, Tony Wu, H. K. J. C. H. F. (D. O. Souza, M. Ferras, L. Loh).

SUNDAY

Ladies—2.30 p.m. Collette v. South China (A); 4.30 p.m. L. W. v. T. W. (B); 6.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 8.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 10.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 12.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 2.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 4.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 6.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 8.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 10.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 12.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 2.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 4.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 6.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 8.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 10.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 12.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 2.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 4.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 6.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 8.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 10.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. B. (A); 12.30 p.m. Turner, C. Remedios, M. 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FLOWERS FOR HUNGARIANS



French schoolchildren present flowers to the Hungarian footballers who beat England 6-3 at Wembley recently. This picture was taken at Malakoff in the suburbs of Paris where the Hungarians played a friendly match against a local works team.—Express Photo.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

Roger Bannister Declines American Invitation

Roger Bannister, runner of the world's fastest mile this year, has declined an invitation to compete in the U.S. Indoor Championships.

The Americans wanted to stage a 'Mile of the Century' and also invited Chris Chataway and Bill Nankiville.

Bannister refused because to reach his peak in mid-winter would mean upsetting his training schedule.

GOOD CHANCE

Despite that Hungary debacle England has a good chance of reaching the quarter-finals of the World Cup. They are one of the eight seeded countries and are grouped with Italy, Belgium and Switzerland.

There are four groups of four, each including two seeds. Each side will play each other, the top two qualifying for the quarter-finals.

Scotland, however, who are unseeded, have a more difficult task. Their group includes Uruguay, the holders, and Austria.

Lewin Jones, one of the greatest ever Rugby Union full backs, plays his first international as a professional in the Wales v. France match in Paris on December 13.

As an amateur Jones gained ten Rugby Union caps for Wales between 1950 and 1952, and also toured Australia and New Zealand with the British Isles side.

Best known as a full back, he also plays centre, wing or fly-half, and has done so in first-class matches.

He turned professional last year, but a broken arm delayed his first Rugby League cap. Recovering from the set-back he has come right back to form. In his last three club games he has scored 60 points.

AUSTRALIAN FLAVOUR

Next year's Oxford University Boat Race crew may have

a distinct Australian flavour. Four of the eight rowing positions may be filled by Aussies.

They are J. McLeod, stroke, E. O. G. Fain, the Olympic oar, J. A. Gobbo and E. W. Vinc. All four are at present rowing in the 'A' crew in the trials.

Remember Primo Carnera, known as the Ambling Alp, the giant Italian boxer who won the World Heavyweight Championship?

Well, the Italians think they have discovered a bigger and better edition of him in Milo Maltagli, who at 20 has just taken up boxing.

Milo, who tops seven feet, is six inches taller than Carnera, and about the same weight—20 stone.

FRESH FIELDS

Laurie Fishlock, former Surrey and England opening batsman, has led a more active sporting life than most. But he is still seeking to conquer fresh fields.

Forty-seven-year-old, he is learning to play rugby. Reason is that Laurie has been appointed sports coach and physical training instructor to St. Dunstan's School, Catford, and rugby is their winter game.

Fishlock was a soccer man. A former amateur international, he later played professionally for Crystal Palace, Millwall and Southampton.

RUSSIA V. BRITAIN

Russia is to send a team of athletes to Britain next year. They will represent Moscow in a flood-light match against

London at the White City on September 22.

Highlight of the meeting promises to be in the 5,000 Metres. The Russians have two men who have returned better times than Gordon Pirie, Britain's middle distance champion.

The Wimbledon Championships this year made a record profit of £50,000 for the Lawn Tennis Association—£20,000 more than last year. And this was after expenses had been deducted by the All England Club, owners of the ground, for the cost of maintenance and improvements.

MEXICAN PRIDE

Mexico may not count for much in the soccer world, but Mexicans have their pride, and they intend to give of their best in the World Cup. They have selected 22 players for World Cup games.

They will train together two days a week until their first game against Haiti on December 27. A fortnight before the game all 22 players will be installed in a luxury hotel for the final preparations.

All-League games in Mexico have been cancelled until the two games against America, on January 10 and 14, are over. During those seven weeks Mexico will tune up against a team from Brazil, who have agreed to play six matches.

MAY RECONSIDER

Wally Hayward, 45-year-old South African who recently set a world endurance record by running 150 miles 502 yards in 24 hours, has said that he may reconsider his decision never to attempt the 24-hour run again.

"After the race I said I was finished," he commented, "but I never knew when they are beaten."

Hayward plans to make an attempt of the 40 and 50-mile records in South Africa next May.

Wally McArthur, a 19-year-old half-cent aboriginal, is to play Rugby League football with the Lancashire club, Rochdale Hornets. He is to receive a signing-on fee of £250, and will be paid £20 per match.—(London Express Service).

British LTA To Buy Queen's Club

London, Dec. 10. The British Lawn Tennis Association is to buy the tennis world's famous Queen's Club in West London, and transform it into the city's tennis centre, it was announced here today.

The club, famous for 50 years for its lawn tennis and squash racket courts, was in danger of liquidation because of financial reasons.—France-Press.

Wayfoong v. Ewo

The following will represent Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation in their annual Hong match against Jardine's on Sunday at 11.30 a.m. at the H.K.C.C. ground.—G. A. Allenhead, J. A. Borthwick, P. G. A. Cantopher, R. G. Craig, P. G. Ingram, F. R. Jekyll, F. J. Knighly, F. A. L. Layton, S. F. T. B. Lever, B. O. D. Paterson, F. H. G. Thompson. Umpire, F. Marshall.

Royal H.K. Defence Force Orders

Serial No. 49 Orders by Colonel L. T. Rice, CBE, ED, Commandant, Royal Hongkong Defence Force, dated December 8, 1953.

Force Orders

Audit Board. An audit board composed of under will assemble at the Audit Office 10, 1953, at 10 p.m. for the purpose of auditing such accounts as may be presented.

President—Captain F. V. B. Bello, ED Pay Section. Members—Lieutenant A. Boyd-Coville, 1st RVR, Pilot Officer G. Graham, HKAAP.

Force Headquarters

Artillery Battery. 1st Gunners Tp. Monday, December 14, 1953.—Field Day. Heavy Valley 1 a.m. Tp. will leave MFC 7.30 a.m. Dress: Parade. Tuesday, December 15, 1953.—MFC 8.30 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. G & R Tp.—Monday, December 14, 1953.—MFC 8.30 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. Wednesday, December 16, 1953.—Volunteer Centre Exercise. MFC 12.15 p.m. Dress: Winter Uniform.

Hongkong Regiment

Duties. Order of the Week. Next for duty—Lt. P. O'Riordan. Order of the Week—Sgt. J. G. Ribeiro. Next for duty—Sgt. R. Chapman.

Training. 2nd Coy.—7th Day—Sunday, December 13, 1953. Range Class. Heavy Valley 1 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. MFC 8.30 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. 1st Coy.—7th Day—Sunday, December 13, 1953. Range Class. Heavy Valley 1 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. MFC 8.30 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. 1st Coy.—7th Day—Sunday, December 13, 1953. Range Class. Heavy Valley 1 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes. MFC 8.30 a.m. Dress: Plain clothes.

Annual Bounty. Certain personnel have been awarded a bounty which will be paid at the forthcoming Pay Parade. No Entries about Pay or Bounties will be considered at the Parade. Queries should be made in person at the Accounts Office at 10, December 22, 1953. To avoid unnecessary investigation, however, the attention of all ranks is drawn to the fact that, apart from other training attendances and efficiency qualifications necessary for the award, no member can be considered eligible for a bounty unless he has at least 10 instructional periods attended during the period October 1, 1952 to September 30, 1953. Transport will leave Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m.

Trade Training. Clerks P.A. Wednesday, December 10, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Thursday, December 11, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Friday, December 12, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Saturday, December 13, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Sunday, December 14, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Monday, December 15, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Tuesday, December 16, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Wednesday, December 17, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Thursday, December 18, 1953. HQ HKDF—5 a.m. Full Day. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Friday, December 19, 1953. 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BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"SZECHUEN"	Koelung	11 a.m. 13th Dec.
"ANKING"	Singapore & Penang	10 a.m. 17th Dec.
"HUPEN"	Tientsin & Tientsin	10 a.m. 17th Dec.
Sails from Custodian Wharf		
ARRIVALS FROM		
"SZECHUEN"	Koelung	7 a.m. 12th Dec.
"FOOCHOW"	Bangkok	12/13h Dec.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"CHANGTE"	Sydney & Melbourne	10th Dec.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"CHANGSHA"	Australia & Manila	18th Dec.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

Sails		
"ANTHOCUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Dec.
"CYCLOPS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Dec.
"AUTOLYCUS"	Glasgow, London, Rotterdam, Antwerp & Hamburg	30th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails		
"AUTOLYCUS"	Liverpool	7 a.m. 12th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	do	13th Dec.
"ANCHISES"	do	24th Dec.
"GLYCEUS"	do	28th Dec.
"ASTYINAX"	do	8th Jan. 1954
"PYRRHUS"	do	13th Jan. 1954
"EUMARUS"	do	23rd Jan. 1954
"ASCANIUS"	do	28th Jan. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

De La Rama Lines

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

Sails		
"HAINAN"	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.
"AGANEMONG"	do	do
"DONA AURORA"	do	do
"DONA ALICIA"	do	do
"BATAAN"	do	do

SAILING FOR NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL.

Sails		
"RENADES"	19th Dec.	20th Dec.
"AJAX"	4th Jan.	5th Jan.
"HAINAN"	19th Jan.	20th Jan.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Tathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Depart Hongkong	Arrives H.K.
HK/Hongkong/Singapore	(DC-4) 7:00 a.m. Tue. Fri.	7:15 a.m. Wed. Sat
HK/Hongkong/Batavia	(DC-4) 8:30 a.m. Tue. Fri.	3:45 p.m. Wed. Sat
HK/Hongkong/Singapore	(DC-4) 11:00 a.m. Wed.	8:00 p.m. Thu
HK/Hongkong/Batavia	(DC-4) 11:00 a.m. Wed.	4:30 p.m. Thu

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

For particulars please apply to:

Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.

1 Connaught Rd., Tel: 3033/8

Branch Office: 55 Connaught Rd., Wanchai, Tel: 25875, 32144, 24878

CHINA MAIL

HONGKONG PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOON)

Price: 20 cents per copy.

Subscription: \$6.00 per month.

Postage: China and Macao \$3.00 per month, U.K. British Possessions and other countries \$7.00 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.

Telephone: 2411 (5 Lines).

TELEPHONE OFFICE: 2411

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NOTICE

CHINA LIGHT & POWER COMPANY, LIMITED

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Thirty-first Ordinary Meeting of the Company's Shareholders will be held at 12 o'clock Noon on Saturday, 12th December, 1953, in the Company's Hongkong Office, St. George's Building, 2nd floor, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, for the purpose of:-

1. Receiving the Statement of Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 30th September, 1953.
2. Electing two Directors.
3. Appointing Auditors and fixing their remuneration.
4. Confirming the Interim Dividend of 30 cents per share, free of tax, and sanctioning the recommendation of the Directors as to the payment of a Final Dividend of 70 cents per share, free of tax, in respect of fully paid shares and a proportionate amount in respect of partly paid Shares.

The Transfer Books and Register of Shareholders will be closed as from 28th November, 1953 to 11th December, 1953, both days inclusive.

Dividend Warrants will be available for collection, or will be dealt with in accordance with standing instructions, on or after 14th December, 1953.

Dated at Hongkong this 20th day of November, 1953.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
P. W. A. WOOD,
Secretary &
Chief Accountant.

Hongkong, 20th Nov., 1953.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26051

HONGKONG to MANILA & JAPAN

The fast cargo vessel

m.v. "MONKAY"

will leave Hongkong on the 14th December 1953

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

R.M.S. "CHUSAN"

ROUND TRIPS TO JAPAN

January, 1954			April, 1954		
Dep: Hongkong	18th January	8 p.m.	19th April		
Arr: Yokohama	22nd January	8 a.m.	23rd April		
Dep: Yokohama	23rd January	4 p.m.	24th April		
Arr: Kobe	24th January	Noon	25th April		
Dep: Kobe	27th January	10 a.m.	27th April		
Arr: Hongkong	30th January	Noon	30th April		

For Particulars Apply to:-

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO., OF HONGKONG LTD.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 43 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post, South China Sunday Post-Herald, and China Mail Staff Photographers are on view in the Morning Post Building.

ORDERS BOOKED

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CARTHAGE"	15th November	15th December
"CORFU"	10th December	11th January
"CHUSAN"	10th December	10th January
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"TRESILLIAN"	10th January	
Homewards	Sails	For
"SHILLONG"	15th December	Singapore, Penang, Port Swettenham, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg.

With liberty to call at Batavia before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if convenient.

Tanks available for cargo of Oil in Bulk space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SIRDHANA"	due 14th Dec.	from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits
"SIRDHANA"	sails 15th Dec.	for Yokohama & Kobe
"WARORA"	due 4th Jan.	from Japan
"ANSIUN"	sails 6th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta
"ANSIUN"	due 7th Jan.	from Japan
"ANSIUN"	sails 8th Jan.	for Singapore, Rangoon & Calcutta
"ANSIUN"	due 10th Jan.	from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits
"ANSIUN"	sails 11th Jan.	for Japan

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"UMARIA"	due 18th Dec.	from Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Straits
"OKHLA"	sails 19th Dec.	for Japan
"OKHLA"	due 19th Dec.	from P. Gulf, Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Singapore
"OKHLA"	sails 20th Dec.	for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	In Port	from Japan & Shanghai
"NELLORE"	sails 15th Dec.	for Yokohama, Rangoon, Melbourne
"NELLORE"	due 19th Dec.	from Australia
"NELLORE"	sails 20th Dec.	for Japan

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:-
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
OF HONG KONG LTD.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

NOTICE

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED,

has pleasure in announcing its return to Re-built Premises at 7, Queen's Road, Central, on Monday, 14th December, 1953. (Tel. Nos. remain unchanged)

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

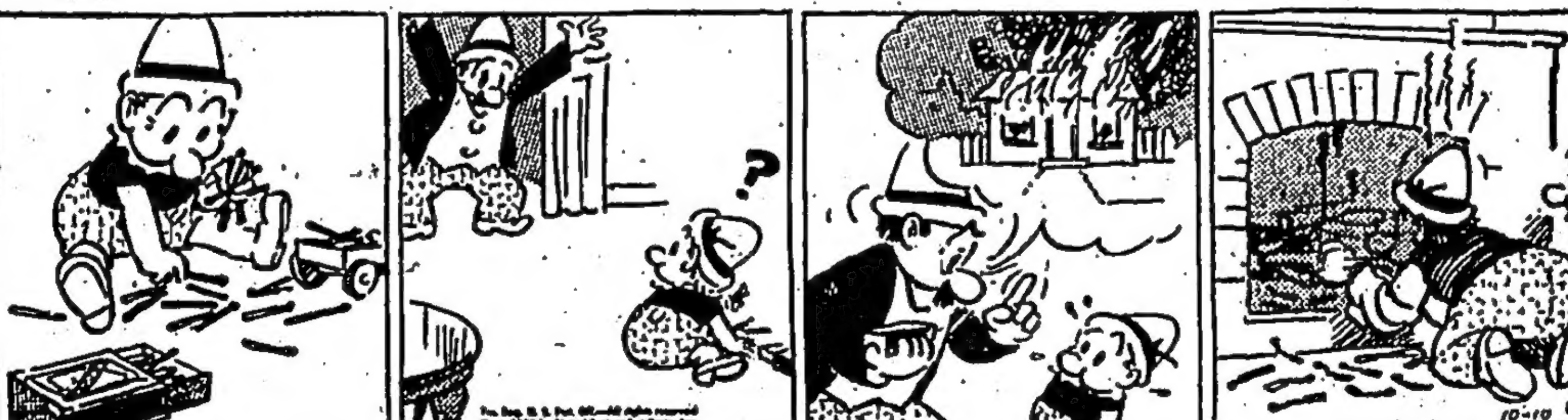
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERNAND

Let The Kid Try!

By Milk



NANCY

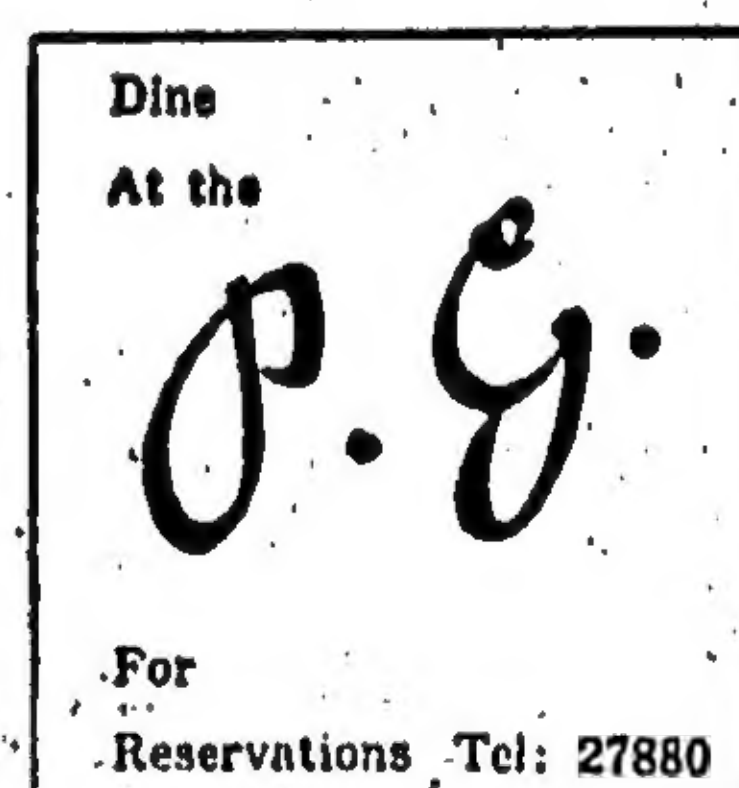
Can't Blame The Pooch

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



FAROUK'S STAMP COLLECTION

London, Dec. 10. The second auctioneer's catalogue of ex-King Farouk's treasures was published today. It is a 120-page list of the former Egyptian monarch's stamp collection, published for General Naguib's Government by the London auctioneering firm of Harrods. Egyptian stamps in the collection total 1,100 lots, the rest of the world 480. One of the stamps which will go up for auction over six days beginning on February 12 is a rare two-cent British Guiana issue of 1851, expected to bring about £1,000. The rarest item is believed to be an envelope bearing three stamps of an 1858 issue in the Rumanian province of Moldavia. It will bring "anything over £1,000," the auctioneers expected. Yesterday, a huge catalogue of coins and other palace treasures of the deposed monarch was issued by another auctioneer—Chisnall, Mail Special.

STRIKE DECLARED ILLEGAL

Karachi, Dec. 10. The Pakistan Government tonight declared a strike by more than 1,000 Karachi dockers "illegal." The dockers struck today in support of their claims for higher wages, bonuses and fewer working hours. Eighteen ships are due in the port today. The dockers' union says it called a "legal" strike because the Government's declaration of the strike as illegal was a violation of the 18-month-old dispute. A Government letter to the dockers' president says the strike is "illegal" because it was called without notice. The union says it was not notified.



EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"BRADEVERETT"

Arrives Dec. 16 from Singapore.

Corinne Calvert Arrives Home



Corinne Calvert, famous French film actress, after a long absence in Hollywood making pictures, returns home. She was greeted on arriving at Le Bourget by numerous friends with flowers.—Express Photo.

Special Coins Mean Extra Work For The Mint

In 1935 a special five shilling piece was issued to celebrate the silver jubilee of the accession of George V: today, depending upon its condition, the coin changes hands for between 10s and 12s 6d according to the Financial Times.

In its turn, the Festival of Britain was commemorated by the issue of a special Festival crown; just over 2m. pieces were struck. The Festival crowns, in the best tradition of British craftsmanship, were extremely popular, and now change hands for about 12s. 6d.

With the public, if not with the connoisseur, the crown piece struck this year to mark the Coronation has proved no less popular than its predecessors. Orders for it have reached 6m., and it is expected that, despite the difficulties of production, they will be met before the end of the year.

There has been some delay in meeting orders because of the work involved in producing the sets—each coin has to be struck separately, and packed in boxes, and the dies need continual repolishing—but here again the Mint expects to meet all orders before the end of the year.

The work involved in producing these special commemorative coins, as well as the expenditure, has been considerable, and has strained severely the resources of the Royal Mint. As it is, the Mint produces about 10m. coins every week. Last year, the number of coins produced was 488,750,000, the highest output for one year's single shift working in the Mint's history.

It is likely that this figure will be equaled or surpassed in 1937, while the demands of Coronation year have imposed additional burdens on the Mint's resources.

100 YEARS AGO

A hundred years ago, the Mint produced about 25m. coins a year. By 1890 the figure was 70m., by 1900, 130m., and by 1920, 200m. Accompanying this great increase in output has been the development of a large overseas market for coins struck in the U.K. The foreign governments served include those of Burma, Jordan, Iraq, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Last year, in fact, over 90 per cent of the total output was for Colonial and foreign governments, and the number of coins struck for home circulation was the lowest for nearly 60 years.

The new Elizabethan coinage was first issued some 18 months after the Queen's accession. It was introduced in two ways. By the normal method, as declined, their fresh demands were met by issues of new coins from the Mint. At the same time, complete sets of the new coins, as well as the commemorative crown pieces, were issued to individuals through the banks, on request.

Orders for the crown pieces exceed the number of Festival crowns struck in 1935 by some 4m., and the same record demand has met the issue of the special sets, which, comprising ten coins, ranging in value from 2s. 6d. to 5s.

Witch Doctor's Curse Beaten

Ribaul, New Britain, Dec. 10. Salvage workers beat a witch doctor's curse to get an estimated £A8,000 (£26,400 sterling) worth of goods from the wreck of the trader Mirigil, which last year broke up on rocks off Manus Island, New Guinea.

While the witch doctor was present nothing seemed to go right with the salvage work, which he had cursed for some reason of his own.

But the death was reported, and the salvage team bought his charm—a Soplak native's head.

From then on the men, working in improvised diving suits incorporating Japanese gas masks, army boots with leaden soles, and bells carrying heavy metal to keep them under water, went ahead with the salvage job.

The charm has now been installed in the curio corner of the home of the salvage skipper, Captain J. H. Evans, of Collis Mail Special.

Japanese Goods Are Subject Of New Trade Patterns

London, Dec. 10.

Japanese goods are the subject of a number of new triangular trade patterns that have recently appeared on the world scene. The object, from Japan's point of view, is to achieve an overall payments balance in the most profitable manner.

Japan is long of dollars and short of almost every other currency. The obvious solution is to buy needed currencies for dollars, but it is more profitable to use the dollars for merchandising US goods, as the British Treasury discovered a year ago when it liquidated its deficit with the European Payments Union by allowing UK merchants to sell dollar commodities to Europe. In that case ten days of freedom was sufficient to reverse Britain's debtor position.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$407,230.20. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS

HSK Bank 1300 1010

INSURANCES

Lombard 58 1/2 20 @ 535

Union 5 1/2 20 @ 535

Underwriters 9

SHIPPING

Asia Nav. 1.10 1000 @ 1.375

Doek 21.20 21.00

Providence 12.70 12.00

Wheeler 11.00 12.50

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There are still some markets where dollar goods will fetch a premium if they can be purchased without dollars.

Japan is offering dollar goods to Germany to settle her deficit on the Japanese-German clearing.

Newsprint, ramie, soybeans and raw hides are being offered now, and copra, copra oil cakes, and Manilla hemp will be offered later.

An agreement between the West German and Japanese Governments permits up to 5 million of these triangular contributions to the trade balance between the two countries.

Similar offerings are reported from Stockholm, where the authorities deny official knowledge of, but are tolerating, imports of dollar goods from Japan.

But this technique, profitable though it is, has not sufficed to mop up more than a fraction of Japan's deficits on bilateral accounts, and a market has developed in "cheap yen."

EUROPEAN CREDITS

The "European" holders of credits on Japanese clearing accounts are selling them at a discount of 6 per cent to merchants who use them to acquire Japanese silk which they sell to New York. Exceptional arrivals of Japanese silk caused some weakness in the New York silk market recently.

Those who are accustomed to the vigorous efforts of the British Treasury to stamp out this kind of operation when done in sterling goods will be surprised to learn that triangular deals in raw silk are actually being encouraged by the Japanese Government.

An official spokesman in Tokyo has forecast that these deals will continue for some time, because surplus yen accounts held by European and other nations are not expected to be easily diminished.

SILK SHIPMENTS

There has been a recent increase in silk shipments to the Netherlands, Brazil and Sweden, paralleled by a decrease in direct shipments to New York.

But Japan has yet to tackle her major currency problem which is shortage of sterling.

Trade negotiations with Britain are expected to begin early this month, and the signs are that the British Board of Trade will reject offerings of dollar goods or cheap yen, and will insist that the Japanese sterling deficit be settled by payment of dollars to the Bank of England.

—China Mail Special.

The Cotton Markets

New York, Dec. 10.

Closing Prices

Dec. 9 Dec. 10

Spot 32.50 32.50

March 1937 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1938 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1939 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1940 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1941 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1942 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

The Cotton Markets

New York, Dec. 10.

Closing Prices

Dec. 9 Dec. 10

Spot 32.50 32.50

March 1937 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1938 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1939 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

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March 1940 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

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October 32.50 32.50

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March 1941 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

March 1942 32.50 32.50

May 32.50 32.50

July 32.50 32.50

October 32.50 32.50

December 32.50 32.50

NEW YORK FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Closing rates Dec. 10.

Canada (dollar) 1.00 1.00

England (sterling) 1.00 1.00

France (franc) 1.00 1.00

Germany (mark) 1.00 1.00

Italy (lira) 1.00 1.00

Japan (yen) 1.00 1.00

Netherlands (guilder) 1.00 1.00

Sweden (krona) 1.00 1.00

Switzerland (franc) 1.00 1.00

U.S.A. (dollar) 1.00 1.00

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